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Treasury suffers £2bn revenue shortfall

Bootleggers force Brown's Budget hand

By Philip Webster, political editor

GORDON BROWN is to unveil a tougher-than-expected Budget after being hit by a £2 billion shortfall in revenue, much of it because of tobacco smuggling.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer is expected to announce an investigation into the operation of Customs and Excise after officials told him that he was losing more than El billion in duty a year through organised cigarette smuggling.

The worldwide drop in oil prices will also mean the loss of several million pounds in revenue.

Mr Brown's room for manoeouvre next Tuesday is believed to have been severely curtailed by the shortfall, which was not reflected in the healthy January borrowing figures that encouraged speculation about a generous Budget.

The Treasury has been alarmed by such reports, because the good January figures did not take account of the lost Excise revenue. Treasury insiders are urging caution and one said: 'The Chancellor keep to his golden rule that tax revenues have to cover current spending and that the public finances should remain in surplus for the next four years. If the revenues are lower than expected, it means that the amount we spend will not be as

That means hopes of much higher public spending emerging from the Budget are likely to be dashed. The allocations made to ministers in last year's comprehensive spending review are not under threat, but requests to Mr Brown for extraspending this year may fall on deaf

It also remained uncertain last night whether Mr Brown would go ahead with his long-promised plan to introduce a 10p income tax rare next week. Most analysts had expected him to do so and to help to finance the change through cutting or wiping out the remaining 10 per

cent of mortgage interest relief.
the Chancellor is still believed to
want to tax child benefit, although

A handshake carefully staged for the cameras marked the end of one of the longest political feuds in British politics on Saturday night

(Shirley English writes). Robin Cook and Gordon Brown officially buried the hatchet after barely speaking to each other socially for 20 years.

The truce was called at a party at Livingston Football Club to mark the Foreign Secretary's 25th anniversary as an MP. The two ministers shook hands while Mr Cook's Gaynor, and Sarah friend, looked on. A few words of mutual admiration cemented the

reconciliation.

practical difficulties over the principle of independent taxation mean that he is unlikely to do so this year. He may, however, set a target date to start taxing the benefit paid to all

mothers. The Government has been shocked by the rise in tobacco smuggling. Professional crime syndicates are moving to cigarenes because the authorities have been more successful in stopping drugs

smuggling. Container-loads of cigarettes are being brought through the ports withithe result that one in eight cigarettes smoked in Britain is smuggled, according to government sources, Without a tip-off, Customs officers have little hope of stopping the trade and the loss to the revenue is likely to double within three years unless something can be done to check the trade.

To that end, Mr Brown is to appoint a senior figure from industry to take charge of efforts to clamp down on the illegal trade. His remit will include an overall look at Customs and Excise operations to see whether staff and resources are being deployed in the right way.

Mr Brown has, however, rejected calls to cut tobacco taxation as a way of deterring smuggling, and the cost of a packet of cigarettes is likely to rise by 20p to an average E3.64. Increasing the tax on smoking in part of the Government's health policy.

The new anti-smuggling chief stamping cigarette packets with their countries of origin and the leasibility of equipping ports with giant X-ray machines to inspect con-

Sources said the investigation would be rigorous and more officials are expected to be assigned to dealing with cigarettes.

"We are are unlikely to put money into Customs unless we are absolutely satisifed that the money is being properly spent. The situation is deeply alarming. Some 2 per cent of the market was smuggled in 1996. That figure has gone up to 10 per cent in two years."



Sarah Macaulay and Gordon Brown at the celebration to mark Robin Cook's 25 years as an MP

Scottish Parliament to sideline the Queen

BY ALAN HAMILTON

BUCKINGHAM Palace is dismayed by the Queen's limited role for the ceremonial opening of the Scottish Parliament. Edinburgh has been riven by argument over the extent of the Queen's participation, with some nationalist voices wanting her to have only a mini-mal walk-on part.

Now, after months of bickering. a compromise has been reached; she will travel in the Scottish State Coach in a horse-drawn procession from the Palace of Holyroodhouse up the City's Royal Mile, but her part in the opening ceremony is expected to be a few formal words. The day's main event will be a "people's procession".

Traditionalists want her to wear the robes of the Order of the Thistle, Scotland's equivalent of the Garter, but that has yet to be decided. Many Scots were offended when, in 1953, she made her first official visit to their country after the Coronation wearing ordinary day clothes and carrying a handbag.

Nor has it been agreed what ceremonial role will be given to the country's Crown Jewels, normally displayed in Edinburgh Castle. Some want them carried at the end of the procession from Holyroodhouse. At the annual State Opening of Parliament at Westminster the Imperial State Crown is borne in its own coach.

Palace officials are considering a greater role for the Princess Royal, already the Royal Family's most heavy programme of public engage ments. But the Palace yesterday dismissed as "wholly wrong" a report that she would establish a permanent office at Holyroodhouse.

Sources also rejected a sugges tion that the Queenwould appoint a Private Secretary for Scotland.

The Royal Family does not take Scotland — or for that matter Wales - for granted," a Palace source said yesterday. "... Scotland and Wales are important domestic issues and we will be looking closely at how the union develops.

Leading article, page 21

General in poll lead

Amid widespread allega-tions of vote-rigging. Olu Falae refused to accept the victory of General Olusegun Obasanjo in the Nigerian presidential election.

International observers reported many irregularities and the country's transition from dictatorship to democracy was at risk as members of Mr Falae's All People's Party stormed out of the electoral commission offices during counting.....Page 12

	TV & RADIO46,47
	WEATHER24
	CROSSWORDS24.48
	LETTERS21
	OBITUARIES23
	PETER RIDDELL20
	ARTS18-19
ı	CHESS & BRIDGE31
	COURT & SOCIAL22
	LAW REPORT41
	FASHION16,17
	BUSINESS43-46.48

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Owen and Healey will mount anti-euro drive

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

DAVID OWEN and Denis Healey, veterans of the last Labour government, will return to the political front line today to present a challenge to the Government's move towards Along with Lord Prior, the

Heathite former Tory Cabinet minister, and leading businessmen, they will join forces in a powerful new group billed as pro-European but opposed to Britain abandoning sterling. Their move comes the day af-

ter William Hague hardened his party's stance against the euro and made plain that he would be happy to be at the forefront of any anti-euro cam-

paign.
The Conservative party leader brushed aside the announcement by five Europhile Tories that they would stand against the party in June's European elections and, in what was seen as a warning to Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine, said that any Tory MPs

The first edition Beano.

complete with mask

failing to back official candidates would be "out on their ear." He also announced a policy commission of economists and experts to study the advantages of keeping the pound. Mr Hague dismissed the newh formed Pro-Euro Conservative Party as a "sour grapes" party because two of the leaders had been deselected.

Peter Riddell. Leading article.

Tony Blair's perceived shift towards the euro as he launched the national changeover plan last week has given new urgency to today's launch. Lord Healey, the last Labour Chancellor before Gordon Brown, vesterday delivered a warning that the euro could crash before Mr Blair was called upon to make a deci-

sion. Imposing a single interest rate and exchange rate meant the project was doomed

to failure, he said. Lord Prior, a former Northern Ireland Secretary and Employment Secretary and former chairman of GEC. issued a warning that monetary union could mean heavier social, labour and pension costs and that Britain should "give

it a miss' He said that he was sad to be in the opposite camp to his old friend and boss, Edward Heath, "But it is because I felt so strongly about this I decided it was time to stand up and

Lord Owen, former Labour Foreign Secretary, declared that he wanted Britain to remain self-governing. He will lead the New Europe group, to be launched in London this morning. He said he believed in the EU and single market. but did not want to be "dragged into a single state".

Straw returns to more controversy

By Claudia Joseph and Philip Webster

THE Home Secretary will be and calls for his resignation. back at his desk today after disappearing for 72 hours at the height of the controversy over the Stephen Lawrence inquiry report.

Having evaded the media during his weekend in the south of France, Jack Straw will return to new claims of bungling in the Lawrence case



But his most pressing task will be the publication of another critical report on race relations in the police force, published by Her Majesty's Inspectorate

of Constabulary.
Instead of facing MPs himself. Mr Straw left his deputy. Paul Boateng, to make an emergency statement to the Commons apologising for the "serious and regrettable" errors which led to publication of the names and addresses of police informants in the

Macpherson report. Yesterday Sir Norman Fowler, the Shadow Home Secre tary, said Mr Straw should be "considering his position". The Home Secretary should have been in Britain, offering reassurance to witnesses and checking that they had not been placed in danger, Sir Norman claimed.

The Inspectorate of Constabulary report today is expected to castigate forces for not doing enough to combat racism a Continued on page 2, col 8

main anonymous, is a 70-year-old man

from the West Country whose son galva-

nised him into action after watching a tele-

vision programme about the value of old

comics. The comic was bought for him by

his mother for the princely sum of two old

pennies — less than 1p. Euan Kerr, today's *Beano* editor, said:

"In those days, a comic was a completely throwaway item and nobody would have

thought of keeping them, which is why they are so rare. This owner hadn't been

keeping it as an heirloom. It had just been

sitting up in a loft gathering dust."

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Mortgage flexibility for business people



YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT. SUCRELE SECURITY AND AGED LIFE COMER MAY SE REQUIRED BY THE LEMBER, RULL WANTER OUTFATIONS ON REQUEST. Sec. 20

Beano original sells for £6,000 The original owner, who wishes to re-

By Hannah Betts

DENNIS the Menace and the Bash Street Kids were mere twinkles in the cartoonist's eye when the first edition of the Beano was published in 1938. Instead, Big Eggo the ostrich ruled the roost, a character long since consigned to comic history.

Lord Snooty is the only relic from 1938 to have lasted into the 1990s and only the boy aristocrat and his pals could now afford the original edition, which sold at auction vesterday for £6,200, the largest sum ever paid for a comic in Britain.

from Matlock, Derbyshire, a cameraman who grew up on the exploits of Dennis the Menace and Gnasher. After a battle of nerves in the auction room. Mr Driscoll felt he had got excellent value for money. "It's brilliant," he enthused, holding

back tears of emotion. "I've always been a big fan of the Beano and a first edition is something I've long since had my eye on."

The comic, dated July 30, 1938, is one of only six copies of the first edition known to be in existence. Its value was boosted because it came with the only known surviving Whoopee mask, a cover-mount given The proud owner is Oliver Driscoll. 25. away free to readers.

Lords commission expected to stumble over tight deadline

By James Landale Political Correspondent

THE Royal Commission on House of Lords reform meets today for the first time amid growing criticism of its membership and timetable.

The 12-member body headed by Lord Wakeham, the former Tory minister, is expected to hammer out its work programme for the coming months and hold an initial discussion of the potential options for radical constitutional change.

The Commission has been or

dered by the Government to report by the end of the year. If successful, the Commission will have been the shortest ever and will have solved in exactly 10 months, a thorny constitutional riddle which has remained unanswered for more than

Constitutional experts believe the tight deadline means the Commission will not have time to think radically and will, instead, propose conservative reforms which are acceptable to the Government. Concerns have also been raised

privately in the Lords over the dis-tinguished but hardly radical membership of the Commission. Comprising nine men and three wom-en, it includes Lord Hurd of Westwell, the former Tory foreign secretary, Lord Butler of Brockwell, the former Cabinet secretary, and Sir Michael Wheeler-Booth, a former

Clerk of the Parliaments. The chief lear is that the Commission will simply follow the lead given by the Government in its recent White Paper and propose a mostly appointed second chamber with a

modest, indirectly elected element. "Whether the Royal Commission will be influenced in that direction remains to be seen." Lord Richards, the sacked Labour leader in the Lords, said last week. "I hope it

will resist that temptative."
Writing in Bristol University's latest newsletter, Donald Shell, senior ecturer in politics and leading expert on the Lords, said: "One does wonder how serious an exercise the Commission and the chairmanship of Lord Wakeham is intended to be. Giving the task to a bunch of busy people who will manage a few meet-ings between now and the end of the year implies that ministers want a solution to the House of Lords' problem, rather than any serious reflection on the role of the sec-ond chamber in the context of other constitutional reforms underway."

Some peers believe that if the Royal Commission does trane up with radical proposals unacceptable to the Government, its report will simply be ignored. Lord Carter, the Chief Whip in the Lords, said last week during a debate on reform,

that there would be "no question" of the Royal Commission being

He added, however. "No govern-. ment is bound by the conclusions of a royal commission. We cannot pre-dict that the outcome of the Commission's work will be wholly ac-

ceptable to the Government."
Mr Shell believes that if the socalled Weatherill Amendment temporarily saving 91 hereditary peers ernment would be very tempted to ignore the Royal Commission's

al. appointed second chamber to be-come the long-term status quo. The amendment, expected to be tabled next month, when the first stage House of Lords Bill expelling hereditary peers reaches the Lords, was a government compromise to buy off Tory Peers threatening Parliamen-

tary trench warfare. The Commission will meet initialfor a buffer lunch today at its Westminster offices in London.

Leading article, page 21

Jay faces row on change in rape evidence

By Frances GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

Baroness Jay of Paddington. was last night at the centre of a now over government plans to reform the admissibility of women's sexual history as evidence in rape trials.

The proposals are shortly to be considered by the House of Lords. They are opposed by both the Lord Chief Justice. . Lord Bingham of Cornhill. and the organisation Women against Rape - for conflicting

The controversy has been fuelled by the disclosure that the Government's own Wom-en's Unit, headed by Lady Jay. says that there are times when a woman's sexual history may be relevant. In particular, the unit says that it could be relevant to whether a man thought a woman had consented to sex or not — the attacker's defence that he "thought

she wanted it". The Women's Unit says: "A defendant might claim that he believed the complainant was consenting because he had been told that she always kicked and screamed during sex. This would be relevant to

his honest belief." The disclosure, in a letter to Women Against Rape, has outraged and dismayed the group, which argues that the Home Secretary's proposals give wide latitude for a wornted. Under present law, a man cannot be convicted of rape if

THE Minister for Women. he honestly believed a woman consented. This is based on a

in a reply to the Women's Unit. Women against Rape condemn the failure by Lady-Jay to meet their request backed by 200 organisations - to support a ban on questions about sexual history in

rape trials. "How can rape victims expect protection if after two decades of campaigning for protective laws, the Women's Unit - which is supposed to represent their interests believes rapists' lies over women's evidence?" the pressure group says. "Rapist after rapist has been allowed to walk free after claiming that the victim he had beaten black and

Jack Straw's proposals seek to curb judges' discretion on admitting as evidence a woman's sexual history. But judges would be able to admit such material where it is evidence of a man's belief in consent. Women Against Rape say that this means the protection which the proposals appear to give would evaporate. They want tighter restrictions.

blue loved 'rough sex' ."

The Lord Chief Justice is arguing that what is admitted should be at the discretion of the trial judge, as now. The Bill will also stop defendants cross-examining their victims, a move opposed by the Lord Women Against Rape. Ruth Hall, of Women

against Rape, said: "This is a false protection. Most rapists are represented by barristers who are more skilled than themselves in humiliating and discrediting victims." The issue was not who asked the questions, but what questions were asked, she added. "Many countries now ban sexual history evidence. None makes an: exception for a man who claims he believed that a woman who was kicking and screaming was consenting."

The proposals are contained in the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Bill and are expected to debated by peers at the Bill's Report stage.
The Women's Unit says that

Lady Jay shares the concern of Women against Rape that "irrelevant evidence about complainants' previous sexual history should be kept out of sexual offence trials". The Lord Chief Justice wish-

es to retain the discretion that judges currently have on whether sexual history be allowed; but Women against Rape argue that the Government's proposals create a huge gateway for sexual history to be admitted. Lord Thomas of Gresford has highlighted the fundamental flaw in the Bill that "in almost every case where the defence is one of consent, there will be an additional defence that, even if the comfendant reasonably believed that she did consent".



Errol Kerr loves figures so much that he is able to recognise video films by the serial numbers that flash up

HE HAS a photographic memory, can count to ten in five languages including Swahili, recognises videos by their serial number, has an IQ of

150 — all at the age of three. Errol Kerr. who has just started nursery school, has astonished his family and teachers. His parents, Alison, and Steven, are desperately trying to keep up with their son's insatiable appetite for knowl-

Mrs Kerr. 33, from South ent when he was just a baby. "He was very demanding. I

Boy has genius figured out at 3

could only feed him or dress him when I played certain kinds of music. It was if the words were registering with him When he was about 12 ponths I used to put Disney videos in the recorder for him, they were before they came on

the television I tried to do it

without showing him the cover, but he still knew what it was, it was then I realised that he was recognising the serial number that flashes up before the trailers start.

"Before he was two he on the road. He would say There's a Nissan' or There's a Volvo'." Tests showed that Errol had an IQ level in reading and comprehension of 150, equivalent to that of an eight-year-old.

The local authority has assigned education experts to monitor the boy's progress. A spokesman for South Tyneside Education Authority said: "Errol has outstanding

Mrs Kerr, a computer operator who has two other children, said: "I don't know tainly doesn't take after me or

my husband."

Cars end sales rush confusion by T-time

By Michael Paterson

A QUIET motoring revolution took place today as T-time arrived early. T-reg number-plates were being introduced only seven months after S-reg

In recent years, a quarter of new car sales have been in the first few days of August, the month for new registration letters since 1967. But car industry representatives had complained that manufacturers had to stockpile cars and could not guarantee to give customers the best service in the annual late summer scramble.

The Government is allowing new registration plates to be released in March and Sep-tember. The new letter is the first step in the overhaul of the traditional car registration systern, which will switch to a continental-style regional identification system by 2001.

Those who covet the latest etter seemed unaware of the impending change yesterday. Since 1992, Dees, a large Ford showroom in Croydon, South London, has marked the arrival of new letters by opening at midnight, sometimes with a steel band. Last night it stayed shut.

One of its salesmen, Jason Chuter, said: "More than half the people looking for a new car this weekend didn't even know the T-reg was about to

He said that it was too cold for midnight celebrations, which would probably return in September.

The move to a twice yearly letter change, which is being paid for by manufacturers af ter they requested the move, vehicles over the year, according to experts.

Straw back

Police investigate MoD hacker claim

SCOTLAND YARD'S Fraud Squad is investigating allegations that a hacker has succeeded in breaking into secret military installations in Britain (Michael Evans writes).

Fraud Squad officers who are responsible for investigating offences against the Computer Misuse Act began inquiries after suspicions that several "international sites", including military installations, had been targeted by a hacker. Scotland Yard confirmed that an investigation was under way but refused to give any more information.

Ministry of Defence sources firmly denied a report that a hacker had managed to take control of one of Britain's miliand had altered its course. The MoD's Skynet 4 satellites provide secure communications for all British Armed Forces overseas. Until last week there were four such satellites in orhit. Last week a fifth satellite was launched on an Ariane rocket at the European Space Centre in French Guiana. MoD sources said all the Skynet satellites were "on course" and denied that a hacker had tried to interfere with them. A Sunday Business report

claimed that the MoD had had to report that one of its satellites had been taken over by a hacker. The MoD sources said the satellites were immune from hacking.

IRA weapons will not be forfeited, say chiefs

By MARTIN FLETCHER, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

SINN FEIN'S leaders empharically ruled out IRA disarmament yesterday as several thousand supporters attended a Belfast rally to demand their party's immediate and unconditional inclusion in Northern Ireland's new government.

"There's not even the remotest possibility of the IRA responding to this unilateral demand ... for the surrender of the IRA," Martin McGuinness, Sinn Fein's chief negotiator, told the BBC.

He added that Unionists were "unable to accept that in the course of 30 years they

hadn't the ability to militarily

defeat the IRA" Mitchel McLaughlin, Sinn Fein's more moderate chairman, issued the same defiant message at the afternoon rally. He accused Unionists of fighting a rearguard action against change and nationalist empowerment, and said their veto on full implementation of the Good Friday Agreement had to be removed.

"We are sick, sore and tired of [Unionists] blocking, stallprevaricating, making deals then backing out of deals and constantly trying to rewrite the Good Friday agreenent." he said.

The Government has set Wednesday week as a target date for transferring power to Northern Ireland. That will not happen unless the new executive has been set up but David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist Party leader, will not set up an executive that includes Sinn Fein without a downpayment of IRA weaponry. Mr McLaughlin insisted Sinn Fein was committed to contributing to building trust, but any capitulation to Unionist de-

mands would be a betrayal.

Straw family take flights on cheap

THE Home Secretary and his wife, Alice, who earn more than £150,000 between them and run three houses, saved £360 by flying to the south of France on the budget airline easvJet!

Easylet's most expensive flights, from Luton to Nice, cost £129 each way but Mr. Straw, who earns £87,851. booked the tickets before Christmas at a discount price of E39 each.

Like the other passengers on the two-hour cut price flight, the couple, who have been married for 20 years, were not offered a meal on the aeroplane, just crisps, biscuits and

hot and cold drinks. It is the second time the couple have saved money on airline flights. Last week's Register of Members' Interests disclosed that

the Straw family obtained an upgrade to club class on their British Airways flights to and from Delhi over Christmas, saving them £8,280. Mr Straw, 52, who has been an MP since 1979, and his

wife, who is the second most senior civil servant in the Department of Health, enjoy a comfortable lifestyle. Mrs Straw, 49, earns between E75,210 and E109,420 as director of resources and service. They own three houses, including the family home in a fashionable square in London.

to face a new outcry

Continued from page I year after an initial report

found weaknesses. While Mr Boateng stood at the despatch box, Mr Straw and his wife Alice, a senior civil servant at the Department of Health, were in the middle of a flight to the French Riviera.

The couple bought their easylet budget flight tickets in December, at a cost of £39 each way instead of £129, but chose not to change it despite the airline allowing passengers to change their flights for £10 plus the difference in seat

Instead they caught the 10.45am easyJet flight from Luton Airport to Nice, only informing a handful of White-hall officials where they were

going.

In a direct message to the black community. Tony Blair will today tell the New Nation newspaper that Britain is lag-ging behind the United States

in its treatment of ethnic minorities. "In all honesty, I don't think I can say that enough has been done to improve race relations

in the UK." he says.

Meanwhile the Bishop of Stepney, the Rt Rev Dr John Sentamu, who was one of Sir William's inquiry team, said it took full responsibility for in-cluding informants details in the report's appendices.

Russian threat will cost RAF £1bn for new missile

By MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE EDITOR

THE Ministry of Defence will spend £1 billion to replace one of the missiles selected for the RAFs Eurofighter in order to counter the threat of a new Russian air-to-air

Western intelligence services have warned that the new Russian missile will be faster and have a longer range than the medium-range airto-air missile (AMRAAM) to be fitted to the Eurofighter. The RAF is buying 232 Eurolighters at a cost of £15 billion. The first are due to come into service in 2002.

Although a cash shortage has stopped work on the new Russian missile, it is feared that countries that have Russian fighters, such as China and India, may help fund the programme. Intelligence services believe that it will take four years to fin-

The British and other European defence ministries still try to stay ahead of Russian weapons technology because Moscow sells its arms to

ish developing the missile.

an increasing number of foreign cus-tomers. Defence sources stressed that the Eurolighter would still have a more sophisticated radar than the best Russian fighters, as well as better delensive systems and electronic

warfare equipment. However, the potential threat posed by the Russian missile is being taken so seriously that the Government is to approve the development of a superior weapon. The MoD is this week expected to ask for final bids for a missile that will able

to hit a target at least 70 miles away.

The range of AMRAAM is only about 20 miles. The contract is expected to be awarded during the The choice to be made is between

a European collaboration involving, ny. makers of the AMRAAM.

among others. British Aerospace and GEC, and an American system developed by the Raytheon compa-The European missile, called Me-teor, would not be in operation until

about 2007, five years after Eu-

rolighter comes into service. Raythe-

on is offering an interim weapon sys-

tem based on AMRAAM which could be ready by 2004 and a more advanced missile, comparable to the Meteor, about three years later. The European consortium has dis-

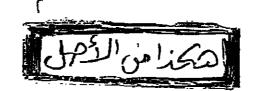
missed Raytheon's interim missile as "inadequate". The Government is being warned that if it chooses the Raytheon weap-

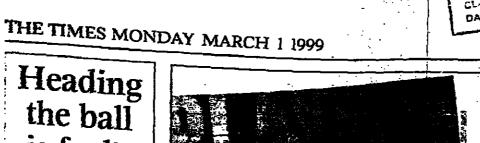
on, it could put at risk export sales of the Eurofighter because Congress in Washington has the power to veto the sale of any aircraft armed with Sources in the European consorti-

um said the Meteor would have a significantly better performance than the existing AMRAAM, using a German-designed ramjet propulsion system. They said the motor of the AMRAAM only functioned at top speed for about seven seconds.

after which the missile began to slow down, reducing its "killing" ability at the far end of its maximum In recent clashes over Iraq, Iraqi MiG jets were able to outrun AM-RAAMs launched by American

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Heading the ball is fool's game, says GP

By IAN MURRAY HEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

HEADING the ball outside the penalty area should be banned to protect football players from brain injury: according to a GP who advises a league club,

David Kernick medical officer to Exeter City. says that a rule change is needed immediately as evidence mounts that repeated heading may cause mental decline.

Writing in The British Journal of General Practice, published today, Dr Kermick says it is estimated that there are over a million regular soccer players in Britain alone. in view of the huge numbers active in the sport round the world, if heading the ball caused even a slight amount of brain damage there would be significant public health **CURSEQUENCES**

Although the dangers of serious head injury while playing the game are recognised, there is conflicting evidence about whether heading the ball is hazardous.

A benefits tribunal in Cotland last year rejected an appeal for compensation by Billy McPhail, a tormer Celtic star, who claimed that his pre-senile dementia was caused by frequently heading heavy leather balls. He scored a hat trick of headers when Celtic beat Rangers 7-1 in the 1957 Scottish Cup Final and Sir Tom Finney. giving evidence on his behall told the tribunal: Billy was constanding in the air ... There's got to be a link between heading these balls and problems in later life."

A recent survey using brain scans on profesers found they did suffer real neurophysiological impairment Another study of Norwegian ama-teur players published in The Langer also found subtle changes in their

ability to reason. The Football Assocnation's medical committer is to start a careerleng monitoring programme of 15 apprentices to see if heading the ball causes permanent damage. They will be rethewest every five years.

Dr kernick says that it will be difficult to obtain dear evidence, but the latest studies do imply that heading poses a danger. He accepts that it would be impossible to ban heading altogether because it is an essential part of the game and "ofters an important dimension of play, particularly around the goalmouth".

However, because of the risks, he argues that a compromise may be acceptable. "There can be (en global health proposals that cost nothing, are can to implement and have the potential to confer benefit on such a large number of people."



Title for men with world at their feet

THE first life in le magazine for professional footballers has been launched, filled with glossy advertisements for fast cars, country mansions and taxuri vachit.

The Players' Journal is distributed free to an elite of 1,000 men with a combined earning power of about 1361 million. most of it highly disposable.

The advertisements tempe the Premiership's finest with playthings such as a yacht which cruises the Caribbean for \$87,500 a week, and a Fiat Autodeita car. which does 0-60 in 6.2 seconds and has a tup speed of 152mph. For the less playful, there is a modern mansion with almost as many bathrooms as bedrooms, costing \$1.9 million,

They are also adverts to attract the wives and girlfriends who help to spend the sevenfigure transfer fees and bonus-

Footballers do it by numbers" says the advertisement for Classic Nouveau Registrations, which offers personalised number plates such as FAS 7, 60 CO and MSNEY. with prices up to £99,500.

There are lots of glossy colpur pictures, mainly action shots of famous players from Bobby Charlton to Michael Owen, in the L30 pages of the bimonthly produced by the Professional Footballers Association. The cover boy is David Beddiam. The articles give members, and is the only way an idea of the tribulations of a rich and famous bothslier's life. A section headed "Can I thumphim" contains five passes of advice about how to tackle nosy reporters and photographers. A spons lawyer writes: "Apart from the fleeting moment of pleasure that it may

press or a photographer will almost certainly result in an action being taken against you." The Health and Fitness section has an introduction to the hamstring, complete with pictures of a masked surgeon, players being stretchered

give, hitting a member of the

away in agony, and Alan Shearer warming up. (Next issue: your pulse and what it's telling you.) An article headlined "Villas go top" gives tips on how to arrange a sunshine break in a remote villa, because "luxury.

privacy and independence score highly in your list of holi-day priorities". Another feature asks: "What sort of player is the ad man's dream?" After five pages of consideration, the author concludes: "Blend the skill and application of Kenny Dalglish

and the flair and high profile

of George Best, and you have the ad man's dream." The Players' Journal itself is the real ad man's dream. The magazine is being delivered through the doors of all PFA to target this highly incrative niche market. The readership is about 10,000.

Not everything is decadence and pleasure in a footballer's world. HSBC Personal Disabiling Insurance has an adverdisement showing a player on a stretcher with the ironic headline "A great future!"

Next to the "Can I thump him?" feature is an advertisement for automated gates, and a few pages later is one for bod-

Ken Bruce, chief executive of Futures In Sport, which has taken a two-page spread for management training courses, thinks The Players Journal may have too many pages. The majority of footballers seem to have a very low boredom threshold," he said. "They don't seem the sort of people to sit down and read a

130-odd page magazine."
While it is easy to imagine a footballer's girlfriend such as Victoria "Posh Spice" Adams browsing through the advertisements, the magazine may leave a Third Division player struggling to pay the mort-gage feeling a little cold. Michael Tait, whose Proper-

ty Hunters service finds homes for people who are rich and busy, said it was a "fair assumption" that none of his clients played for Levron Orient

Shearer scores over the tycoons

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

ALAN SHEARER, the England and Newcastle striker, is reported to be Britsin's highest carning footballer, with E77.5 million a year including a long-term £20 million boot dea! with Umbro.

The wages and salaries bill of the Premier League was £218 million, according to the issuest Deloitte Touche survey. while even the journeymen of the Thurd Division received £18 million.

Footballers' caraings have been rising rapidly, by more than 25 per cent a

year, and the figure for this season is likely to be considerably higher. The Deloitte Touche survey put the to-

tal wage bill of the 92 league clubs at £361 million, but that excludes the sponsorship deals which can increase a player's cash carnings fiveloid. Well-known players from all divisions often have to pay nothing for lummies as sponsors levish them with designer buots, socks. shirts and even sports cars.

Manchester Utd spent (23 million on salaries. Newcastle United £17 million. Arsenal and Liverpool E15 million each. Harriepool United spent (\$03,000, Paul Gasenigne is reputed to earn £13.5 million a year. Devid Beckham £9.4 million. Michael Owen 17 million.

The basic salary of a chief executive in the FISE 100 is £428,000, although that is boosted to £617.000 with his anmual bonus and long-term incentive plan. Charles Brads of the global invo-iment service AVIVES extris £25 million a year. The Prime Minister cel-£102.750 on top of his MP's salary of £45.000 jathough Tony Blair chooses to draw just over field On.

Salvatore Ferragamo



LONDON 24, Old Bond Street - Tel. 0171 629 50 07

Spice babies 'at | risk of deafness'

BY IN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Speci Cirils habites are in that if you have to speak louddanger of Berny norm slightly the same reserved and best The continues a curs are at risk. harmer of the noise level at arrange perfections by their

Melarus Brewn, known as "See Spice" gave birth to a Manager in ares and Posh Specie Victoria Adams is exmany a train within a couple

Break they have bound that even in the womb, such these the deminatority damage a chief branne Unborn to be, an also be parmally desired of their mathers made the laws ride in princip breats . A Fit ethand in biological

MAN SE LOCK MANY DISTR. White we don't have direct क्षेत्रस्थात्रका अर तत्वराज्यात In Learning whilehe troug the pass exposure if presilike The forces Kentreth Gerwith of Foreig Cantrain. Mile the Marine Land engen Serry at Allana Green The rule of thumb is

is to be understood, that noise environment is potentially dangerms to your hearing and

your infant's hearing." Linda Frazier, of the University of Kansas, said that human studies had shown that the loss of hearing among children of women who worked in morey places was enough to make it difficult for them to hear teachers at school and possibly cause learning difficulius.

As many as \$40 children

born in Britain each year have a significant hearing impairtrens. The National Deaf Chidren's Society said that the problem was not noticed in half of the children until they were 18 months old, and that it was me noticed diagnosed in a quarter of them until they were? Thousands more suf-for hearing less through illness or accident. As many as a quarter of five-year-olds have loss hearing as a result of ear infersions.

Thin Red Line defies US attack

By SHIRLEY ENGLISH

WAR is being waged over the title of the American film The Thin Red Line, which went on general release this weekend. Concern has been expressed that the phrase which described British moops in the Crimean War will be lost to Hollywood's definition in the minds of young muriegoers.

The director Terrence Malick's three-hour war epic, starring Sean Penn and Nick Note: tells of an American attempt to capture the Pacific island of Guadalcanal from the

Japanese forces in 1942.

The film's publicity antibutes the title origin to an old saying from the American Mid-West: "There is only a thin red line between the sane and the mad." Britons hold that the phrase originaled with The Times war correspondent Sir William Howard Russell, who used it to de-scribe the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders at the Bank of Balaciava on October 25, 1884. Forming a two-deep delensive line to repel the Russian advance, he said in his dispatch that their scarlet tunies appeared as a "thin red streak topped with a line of steel".

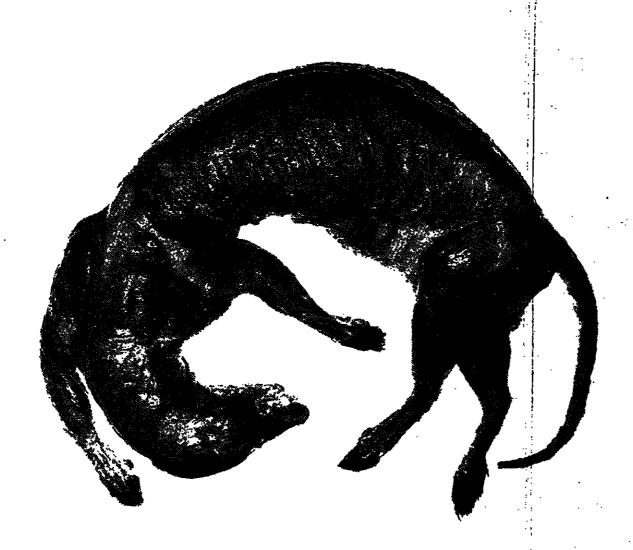
The phrase "the thin red

line" was taker attributed to him and the regiment, now the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, adopted it as its own. Despite the regiment abandoning red tunics for dark green jackers and Black Watch tartan kilts, the phrase remains the title of the regimental magazine. The event inspired one of the best known 19th-century battle paintings. The Thin Red Line by Robert Gibb. the

Tim Hall, of Thin Red Line, a shirtmaker in Savile Row. London, which supplies the military, said yesterday: "We are proud of the historical and British connotations of our name and naturally it is of some concern to us that as a result of the Terrence Malick film the phrase will be widely

Scottish artist.

Fight as rio out as



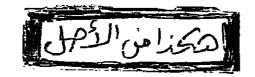
eal fur. It's to die for. In fact, every year tens of thousands of mink do, on fur farms throughout the UK. In the wild, mink establish territories of over a kilometre, where they climb, dive and swim. On farms, they are confined in rows of tiny cages. In such restricted conditions mink show abnormal behaviour. There are instances of fur-biting and even self-mutilation. We at the RSPCA believe that this is cruel. Nevertheless, there are still those who would kill for a real mink coat. The preferred method of slaughter on most farms is to gas the mink. On March 5th, the MP Maria

Eagle's Bill to ban fur farming in the UK will be debated in the Commons. A new opinion poll revealed that 74% of the British public support a ban on fur farming. If you're part of this majority please write to your MP urging them to attend the House on March 5th and to vote in favour of the Bill. Then next season we might see fur coats where they belong. On the backs of their original owners.



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Rivals o



By MICHAEL PATERSON

A BOXING fan died after falling under the wheels of a coach while trying to escape fighting that broke out after a Commonwealth title bout. Violence raged around the ambulancemen as they tried to save the man's life.

The 31-year-old was carried into the coach for treatment but rioters, one swinging a chain above his head, forced their way inside. Windows were smashed and passengers assaulted while the ambulance-

men attempted to revive him. Fighting broke out between supporters after the Commonwealth middleweight title bout between Jason Lewis and Paul Jones at Oldham Sports Centre on Saturday. The conflict spilled out into the car park, where the man was fatally injured. He will be named today.

The ambulancemen, who asked not to be named, spoke of their horror at the fighting. One, who has 15 years experience, said: "It was the sheer level of violence that shocked us. It was a baying mob. Anyone else could have run away or defended themselves but we were there with a job to do. We were there to save someone's life and we couldn't just leave."

His colleague, in his 40s, said: "We are used to dealing [with situations] where vio-lence does occur, but not of this magnitude." The man who died had trav-

elled from London in the coach to watch the fight between Jones, 32, of Sheffield, and Matthews, 28, from Hackney, East London. A sell-out crowd of about 1,000 saw Matthews win after Jones was disqualified by the referee, John Coyle, in the seventh round for continuous holding.

Greater Manchester Police are to examine the role that alcohol played in the night's events. Some witnesses reported that many fans had been drinking.

A spokesman for Frank Warren's Sports Network, which promoted the show, said that no comment would be made as the violence had not happened in the boxing arena. The British Boxing Board of Control said: "We deeply regret this tragic loss of life of a young man who had come to enjoy himself at a boxing tournament. There had been no trouble inside the hall and the

boxing that had taken place had been enjoyable and tobust-

ly supported, apart from a dis-

Violence at boxing bouts is becoming more regular. The most recent outbreak was,last July, when fans of Michael Smyth threw chairs and punches as he lost to Gedff Mc-Creesh in a British welter-weight title bout in Reading.

Some bouts may attract football hooligans. The Football Intelligence Unit of the National Criminal Intelligence Service has attended boxing matches, notably the light-middle weight contest between Robert Mc-Cracken, a Birmingham City fan, and Steve Foster, a Manchester United fan.in 1994.

Murdered girl's body found in shallows

By MICHAEL HARVEY

THE body of a 15-year-old girl was found in a lake by two boys skateboarding at the weekend. She had been mur-

The body of Rachel Glenn was discovered in the shallows at Charnwood Water in Loughborough, Leicestershire. She had disappeared on Wednes-

Police confirmed that Rachel died from drowning but said there were signs of a struggle and that head injuries may have been a contributory factor in her death.

The area was sealed off by police yesterday as divers searched the lake for clues. Officers also searched surrounding parkland.

Detective Superintendent

Bryan Warraker, who is leading the investigation, said Rachel had last been seen by friends on Wednesday but was only reported missing by her mother on Friday, He said: "It was not unusual for Rachel to go off with her friends. On this occasion we were contacted when all the other checks her parents had done failed to locate her."

Police arrested an 18-yearold local youth yesterday in connection with the murder. Boxing, page 38 | He was being questioned at Loughborough police station



Devon Aoki, the 16-year-old London schoolgirl who has become a top model

Schoolgirl is a hit in fashion world

By DEBORAH BRETT IN MILAN AND CLAUDIA JOSEPH

DONATELLA VERSACE unveiled her Versus line last night at Alcatraz, the Milan nightclub, with the help of her

new muse Devon. Measuring in at a mere 5ft 6in, Devon Aoki, the 16-yearold London schoolgirl, is even shorter than Kate Moss, who at 5ft 7in was an exception to the catwalk height rule of at least 5ft 10in. With long lightbrown hair and hazel eyes. Devon has caught the eye of the fashion photographers Jürgen Teller and Steven Meiwho featured her in Italian Vogue, and has landed the Chanel and Versus advertising campaigns as well as being a favourite of the designer Yohji Yamamoto.

She fits in modelling around her schoolwork and shot the Versus advertisements last week before returning to London to attend les-

sons for the rest of the week. Sarah Doukas, managing director of the model agency Storm, signed Devon after Miss Moss, another client. spotted her in an American magazine. Ms Doukas. who knew Devon's parents previously, said: "She is one of the most successful girls in the world at the moment but is also very academic. The work

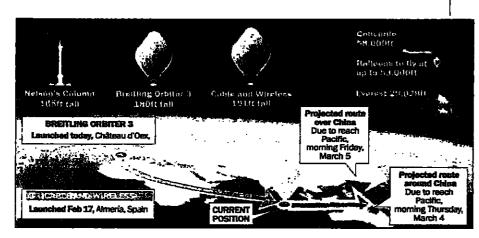
she has done is exceptional. It is no longer seen as a hindrance for shorter girls to appear on the catwalk, as clothes are always fitted to each mod-

el beforehand. The search for a new face, a representation of the look a label wants to achieve, has gathered pace to the point where a new muse is now proclaimed every season.

Devon, whose mother accompanies her on trips, seems unphased by all the attention. As a teenager she is more enamoured with skateboarding and barids than her modelling career.

Last night, after-show entertainment was provided by the Grammy award-winning Lenmy Kravitz, who took to the stage for a one-hour concert.

Rivals on tail of Briton who designed their balloon



FROM HELEN RUMBELOW IN CHÂTEAU D'OEX

THE record-breaking balloonists Andy Elson and Colin Prescot are facing a challenge from a craft due to be launched in Switzerland today. It would be the first time two round-the-world attempts have been pitted against each other in the air.

Bertrand Piccard, a Swiss psychiatrist, and Brian Jones, a British ballooning instructor, are attempting lift-off in Brei-tling Orbiter 3. Although Mr Elson and Mr Prescot have more than ten days' start, they are handicapped by being unable to catch the fast winds over China. All British-registered balloons were banned from China after Richard Bran-

son trespassed into its air space at Christmas. This has cost the Cable and Wireless team nearly a week as it made a detour. Mr Elson and Mr Prescot, who beat the world record of ten days in the air over Burma on Saturday, are moving at a frustrating 25mph as they try to clear the Bay of Bengal without drifting north to China.

They predict they will reach the Pacific by Thursday at the earliest. Mr Piccard and Mr Jones aim to tail them into the Pacific by Friday and may overtake shortly afterwards if their winds are favourable.

Mr Elson has built his own possible Nemesis: the Breitling team is taking advantage of his balloon design from when he was its engineer and pilot last year. He spent nine days aloft with Mr Piccard, an attempt also thwarted by a Chinese ban. Although they are both balloon fanatics - Mr Piccard is the grandson of Auguste Piccard, who invented the modern balloon capsule - there was a person-ality clash and Mr Elson left Breitling soon after their crash landing last year.

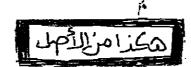
His consolation in the present rivalry is that he left the Swiss team without the expertise to work his unique kerosene fuel system. The Breitling crew admits that Mr Elson's invention "offered an enormous advantage" but has been forced to switch back to the more conventional propane. This means that the Cable and Wireless team are carrying 25 days' fuel while Breitling has enough only for 21 days, because propane is heavier to store.



10

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TV presenter is critical after police accident

By Michael Harvey

THE award-winning broadcaster Sheena McDonald remained in a critical condition vesterday after being hit by a

The 44-year-old journalist suffered serious head injuries when she was knocked down just before midnight on Friday in Islington, North London, as the van was answering an emergency call.

Doctors at the University College Hospital in Euston said that Ms McDonald, a vereran presenter of Channel 4 News, The World This Week and BBCI's On The Record. remained in an intensive care

Her family was last night maintaining a bedside vigil at the hospital. Despite her injuries, it is understood that there are no immediate plans for Ms McDonald to undergo sur-

Ms McDonald began her career as a newsreader with BBC Radio Scotland. She spent eight years at Scottish Television before moving to London to begin work for Channel 4.

Stuart Cosgrove, the Scot-tish-based head of programmes at Channel 4, said yesterday: "Sheena is a great stalwart of Channel 4 and an important broadcaster. All our

thoughts are with her and we hope she makes a speedy re-

Yesterday Alan Little, Ms McDonald's boyfriend, joined her family at the hospital after flying in from Moscow, where ne is the BBC's correspondent. Mr Little, a former war reporter who has won awards for his coverage of the Gulf War and the war in Bosnia, has been with Ms McDonald for four

Gordon Brown, who was ro-mantically linked with Ms.Mc-Donald while they were at Edinburgh University in the 1970s and again in 1994, is also being kept informed of her condition. The Chancellor, who

McDonald: suffered severe head injuries

spent the weekend in Scotland with his fiancee. Sarah Macaulay, remains a close

Reports emerged in 1994 that the pair were seeing each other again before Mr Brown began his relationship with Ms Macaulay, a public relations company executive, later

Ms McDonald, who chaired the judging panel for the Orange Fiction Prize last year, was knocked down in St John's Street. Islington. The police van, which had its blue lights flashing and siren on, was answering an emergency call to a fight on nearby Holloway Road

Scotland Yard said that the driver, a 27-year-old constable, had been suspended from driving and that an investigation launched as part of standard

Both the driver and his 30-year-old colleague were un-

☐ Thirty-eight people, including six police officers, died in accidents involving police vehicles in London over the six years to 1998. During the year 1997/98 there were 5,710 police accidents. Police officers were found to be at least partially at fault in more than 2000 of



A young Carry On fan admiring a poster of Kenneth Williams. His one-time co-star, Patsy Rowlands, said that the films "didn't have a deep meaning"

By Hannah Betts

A NEW generation is rebelling against new Labour's prissy nanny state by crying "Oooh, Matron!" and embracing the 31 politically incorrect films of the Carry On canon.

The academic Andy Medhurst told a conference at the National Film Theatre – a London venue better known for screening the classic films of Andrei Tarkovsky, Krzysztof Kiéslowski and Akira Kurosawa - that the comedy classics had found themselves a new audience

"In Blair's Britain we're always being told to be decent upstanding citizens," said Dr Medhurst, a senior lecturer in media studies at Sussex UniNew generation falls for Carry On classics

versity. "It's no surprise that people turn to something that says Soil that. Let's get drunk and have a bit of a

grope and a laugh'.
"What used to be the preserve of a working class audience has acquired a cult status with a young, mainly middle-class, clientele.

"In the 1960s middle-class youth held the films in contempt. On a Saturday night they'd all be off to the Hampget letters asking "What were you thinking when you said that line?" The truth is I was probably thinking about what I'd be picking up from Sains-burys on the way home. It didn't have

a deep meaning."

But Andrew Spearman, 25, defended fans of his generation. "I don't think it's something we take too seriously. It's just a bit of tun—a Sunday afternoon thing that we all grew up with. There is an element of ironic appreciation, of course, but I wouldn't say it's the main factor.

☐ In May, Pinewood studios will cash in on the trend with its first official Carry On Day - a Carry On-style event involving coach parties and a buffet

Advertisers not amused by itcom's failure

stead Everyman to see the new Anto-nioni. Now there's been a post-modern shift and suddenly Carry Ons have

what we might call cultural capital."

Dr Medhurst was joined on stage

by the Carry On actress Patsy Row-

lands and photography director Alan

Hume. Both said that their new fans

look for too much meaning in the

films. "Students do read so many things into it," said Ms Rowlands. "I

By Carol Midgley, media correspondent

TTV periorts to attract the view. Pressure is building on TTV exers with a comedy based on a successful American series have failed to impress public and critics alike. Days like They townish it had been hoped would end ITV's reputation for mediocre sitcoms, may now be scrapped.

Based on the top-ranking American series That 70s Show, it was made under the auspices of the US team Carsey-Werner, producers of Roseanne. It is set in 1976 and centres on a group of teenagers trying to circumvent the authority of their parents. In the American version they live in Wisconsin; in the British version, Luton. But critics say the concept does not work on this side of the Atlantic.

David Liddiment, ITV's director of programmes, com-missioned an initial 12 episodes with an option for ten more. However, it is now likely that the second batch will be cancelled and sources say the series may even be dropped before the end of its current run.

ecutives, as advertisers were promised the show would win audiences of up to 10 million. Instead, fewer than six million people have tuned in.

The show, shown on Friday evenings, is so far absent from ITV's schedule for March 12 when BBCl broadcasts Comic Relief. Insiders say executives fear its ratings may collapse when it is pitted against the popular fundraiser, and an edition of You've Been Fro to be shown instead.

An ITV source said: "It's difficult to see how it can last at this rate. The figures have dropped as low as four million at some points in the programme and the advertisers are not going to stand for that. In commercial television you have to deliver the goods but

so far Days Like These has failed to do that.". It is not the first time that attempts to anglicise an American show have failed, although the idea has worked £500,000 for first 2000 slot

By CAROL MIDGLEY MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

COMPANIES bidding to become the last television advertiser in this millennium and the first in the next could have to pay up to £1 million for the

Experts predict that a 30-second national slot either side of midnight could cost more than £500.000, compared with a usual peak-time rate of £100,000.

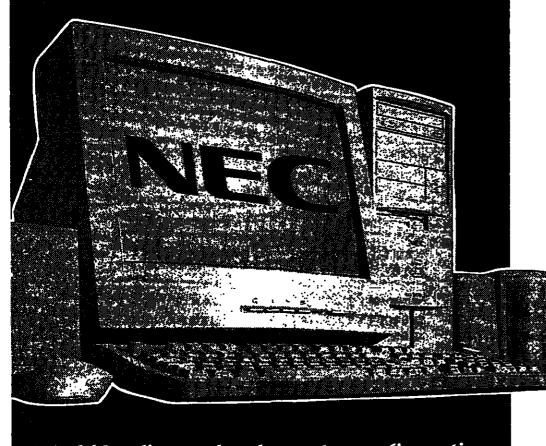
One advertiser, Abbey National, is known to have approached ITV stations three years ago to buy up the firstin-2000 slot. Another contendis Whitehall's publicity machine, the Central Office of Information.

Granada Media which handles advertising for five ITV areas, has been approached by about a dozen companies interested in secur-

ing advertisements.

Jo Brinkman, publicity officer, said: "A lot of people turn on their TVs to see Big Ben chime in the New Year and there is a certain amount of kndos about being first in 2000. We obviously want to maximise revenue as well as being fair."

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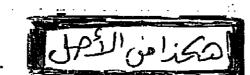
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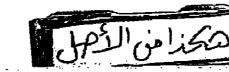
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for first





While in Buenos Aires, Kate Archer's meeting in Sydney was cancelled, so she stopped by an American Airlines ticket office and changed her Qantas ticket for a British Airways ticket home.

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Bord putti out of

Hague to seek ways of saving the pound

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

WILLIAM HAGUE hardened the Conservative Party's antieuro stance yesterday by announcing a policy commission to investigate keeping the pound and withdrawing from cross-party preparations for the single currency.
He warned senior Tories to

campaign for the party's candidates rather than members of the new Pro-Euro Conservative Party in the forthcoming European elections. Under pressure because of poor poll ratings and further signs of Tory divisions on the issue. Mr Hague declared that anyone failing to back official candidates would be "out on their

Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine have not denied reports that they met Tony Blair and Gordon Brown in advance of last week's publication of the National Changeover Plan for the euro. It is unlikely, however, that they would back non-official can-

Mr Hague's announcement of a policy commission, expected to be headed by a former Cabinet minister and containing economists and City experts, showed that he is ready to put himself at the head of the anti-euro campaign.

He said that the commission would assess how Britain could take fullest advantage of its own currency. "I'm going to make sure that the facts and the information and the debate is there, to make sure people really do have a choice."

He added in a reference to today's introduction of the New Europe group: "Other people in other parties, like David Owen, are going to join me in making sure that the country has a choice. I'm very happy to be on that side of the argument, so let battle com-

Mr Hague said the Conservatives would withdraw from the cross-party committee that

will oversee the National Changeover Plan examining how the euro could replace the pound, announced by Mr Blair last Tuesday, "The nature of that committee has changed. It is now to prepare for the introduction of the euro in Britain and to do so without having sought the consent of the voters ... I think that is wrong," he told BBC Radio 4's The World This Weekend.

David Davis, who until yesterday was the Tory member on the committee, said that it was about little more than trving to convince the public that the euro was inevitable.

"The Government should not attempt to pre-empt the decision of the British people. he said. "It is constitutionally unsound and democratically improper. It is now clear that the Government's intention is that the pound is to perish. I will have no part of this." ☐ The Pro-Euro Conservative Party said that it would field at

least five candidates in the summer's European elections. its leaders John Stevens and Brendan Donnelly will be joined by two more former Tory MEPs, Paul Howell, who represented Norfolk for 15 years until 1994, and Andrew Pearce, Member for Cheshire West and Wirral for ten years until 1989; and a former journalist. Richard Bassett. Mr Pearce resigned from the Conservative list of candidates for the North West to join the new party. Mr Stevens said: "We are announcing our decision to stand as candidates in this year's European elections to assure Conservative voters that they will have a choice in June hetween the Euroscenticism offered by William Hague's candidates and a positive attitude

> Peter Riddell, page 20 Leading article and

towards Europe, in particular

towards the euro."



Lord Owen, once backed by Lord Sainsbury of Turville, left, is now supported by Lord Sainsbury of P

Trouble is in store as euro splits the Sainsbury family

THE emergence today of New Europe, the group opposed to Britain joining the single currency, confirms the political split in one of Britain's richest families. One of the financial backers of the cam-

paign is Lord (John) Sainsbury of Preston Candover, cousin of Lord (David) Sainsbury of Turville, the Science Minister, who gave up the post of chairman of the supermarket giant last year, having taken over from his older cousin John. When he joined Tony Blair's Government, the 391-store group was left without a Sainsbury family member for the first

time in its 129-year history.

The dynasty has long been associated with politics. John's brother, Sir Tim Sainsbury, was a minister in the previous Tory Government; Sir Tim's son-in-law is Shaun Woodward, Conservative MP for Witney, and a former Tory spin doctor.

But for David Sainsbury the birth of New Europe, under Lord Owen, may be an unhappy event. He, after all, is a close friend of David Owen and helped to

Minister will not be happy that cousin backs New Europe, writes **Philip Webster**

bankroll the Social Democratic Party in its early days; pro-Europeanism was one of the party's guiding policies.

With the demise of the SDP and La-bour's shift to electability, David Sains-bury became close to Mr Blair, gave large sums to the Labour Party, and ended up in the Government, in which he serves as an enthusiastic Europhile. His political rift with his cousin will

surprise few observers of the retail trade. The word has long been that they do not get on. John Sainsbury, a senior executive for a lengthy period during which it overtook Marks & Spencer as Britain's most profitable relater, has been said to be a hard-headed autocrat. He was known for pacing his stores, checking that the produce was fresh, the cans stacked properly, and living the maxim he in-herited from his father: "Retail is detail." David, by contrast, was always regarded as quiet, thoughtful and approachable. He was quoted at the time of his succession as saying of his cousin: "He loses his temper and I don't."

David's father. Lord Sainsbury of Drury Lane, the grandson of the founders of the chain, died last year at the age of 96. He too was involved in politics, standing as a Liberal candidate, joining Labour and then the SDP

The Sainsburys are proud of their record of supporting political initiatives. Their tastes are various. Last year a oneoff edition of Marxism Today thanked "James Sainbury for his very generous donation." James is the son of Sir Tim. His sister Camilla is married to Mr

THE OPPOSITION

The multimillionaire businessman Paul Sykes formed movement from embers of Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party and is chairman. Ar Democracy Day this month supporters will be asked to leve a pound to save the pound.

Business for Sterling Heavyweight organisation that will marshel anti-euro forces in City and husiness worlds. Cross-party, fronted by Lord Marsh.

Think tank with uncompromising anti-European attitude, founded last year by the Ton peer Lord Pearson of Rannoch. Believes in com-

reges Group issted to support philosophy of stridently anti-Brussels speach

har Baroness Thatsher delivered in Bruges in 1988.

Servatives Against a Federal Europe
Tessure group backed by MPs such as Teresa Gorman who deflect

Pessure group backed by MPs such as Teresa Gorman who defied Pessure group backed by MPs such as Teresa Gorman who defied John Major and were excluded from Tory ranks in Parliament. Emispean Foundation. Run by the backbrach Tory MP Bilt Cash. Publishes monthly magazine. Publishes on mobilising political opposition at least political p

Philippin Labour and EMO group. Dominated by old Labour figures.

People's Europe
Second organisation that represents left wing case against euro.
Campaign Against Euro Federalism
Operates within trade union movement and has regular publication.

nos Market League, Anti-Maastricke Alliance. British-of Magsures Association. Freedom Association. Save the an Alliance. Protect the Globe Locally. Save Britain's igo Brigan Action Group. British Housewives League.

THE SUPPORTERS

an organisation will campaign hard for yes vote nt The Labour MP Giles Radice is president; Ken Immockand Lord renders of Hillhead vice presidents.

Additional Company and uniforella organisation and tropical larger ton court and uniforella organisation and tropical organisation and trained by the second chained by the seco

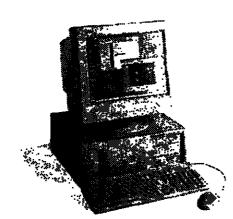
requesting 1 July plus members. Supports for the street on signing up for the single currency.

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NEW EUROPE

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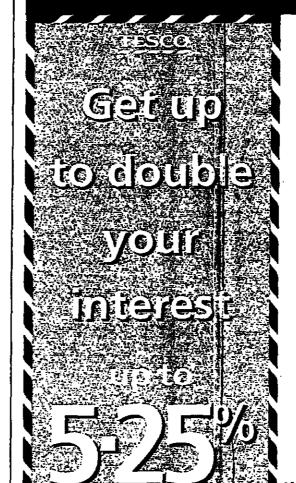
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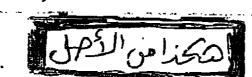
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Border row is putting Rock out of business

THE Spanish border guard amused his colleague with an animated joke, swapped cigarettes and slowly sipped his coffee as the line of vehicles waiting to leave Gibraltar stretched further than he could see.

At the front of the queue Edward Franks had been waiting five hours to cross the frontier into Spain. Usually this is a formality but the self-employed businessman said: "Spain appears to be at war with Gibraltar and nobody in Britain seems to have noticed."

When Mr Franks, 46, loses patience and asks the grinning guards to let him pass, they order his family out of the car. One guard takes out his penknife and jabs at the upholstery of the Franks' new Audi, looking for contraband and drugs. The other frisks Dany Franks, 7, who is forced to remove his jacket and put his

The search takes 20 minutes, during which the queue to leave the Rock grows still longer. Gibraltar officials weave between the cars encouraging drivers to complain and giving out the telephone numbers of the Spanish and British politicians whom they

It began with a spat over fishing rights. Gibraltar's Chief Minister, Peter Caruana, thought that he had settled the problem with the Spanish

orted by Kellogg's, lookand, Schering-Plough, S

Families on both sides say their

livelihoods are under threat, reports Daniel

McGrory

fishing crews, but the Spanish Foreign Minister, Abel Matutes, complained that this was his and Robin Cook's job. A little local difficulty then escalated into a revival of the conflict over the near 300-year British sovereignty of the Rock, and Spain made a point by tightening up its border controls.

Across the wire fence of no man's land, Gerry Monteverde, a complaints officer. makes an unladylike gesture to the diminutive Spanish Civil Guard causing the worst of the hold-up. "They want to starve us into submission and we feel bullied by Madrid and betrayed by London. They accuse everyone in Gibraltar of being drug dealers and tobacco smugglers. But all that happens on the Spanish side of the

frontier, not ours," she says. She points to a group of women in wearing baggy tracksuits, who are busy hiding cartons of cigarettes inside their clothing until they look like the Michelin man They waddle through the customs post, waved on by a Spanish guard, to the town of La Linea

just 20 yards away. There a man with slickedback hair and wraperound sunglasses sits on a wall be-hind the customs shed, buying as many cartons of digarettes as the women can carry. He of-fers bribes of pesets to a coachload of elderly Britons to join his smuggling run. Sever-al stroll back across to the border kiosk where a packet of 20 costs less than 80p. Three minutes walk away, in Spain, it

sells for more than EL.

Ms Monteverde says: "The
Spanish guards ignore such flagrant smuggling and in-stead delay law-abiding work-ers and tourists on their Government's orders."

The procession of cigarette women continues night and day. More than 1,000 families in La Linea are said to rely on this cigarette smuggling for their only income.

Three thousand people from La Linea legally work on the Rock and are protesting to their own Government that the border restrictions threaten their livelihood. Francisco Manueles, a computer engineer, says he missed three appointments because of the delays. "My Government is costing me money, and my Cibraltar customers will use someone on the Rock if this goes on."



A wait of four hours is common at the border, where Spanish guards conduct exhaustive checks on all travellers

Thirty people a week from La Linea are said to be losing their jobs in Gibraltar and many are having pay docked for arriving late. They are planning a demonstration on Wednesday which could bring

the border to a standstill. The Rock is suffering, too. Shops are deserted, offices close early and the 147 bars packed onto the 2½ square miles complain that daytrippers are staying away in their thousands. Furning in the frontier traffic jam. Alfred Duo, 72, can take no more. "I was born here, but I'm leaving Gibraltar for good because of the bloodymindedness of my Spanish neighbours, which is getting worse."

There is no shooting in this border skirmish, just obstructive pettiness. Drivers who do not carry a blanket in the boot in case of an accident, as required by Spanish law, may be turned back after waiting

Ms Monteverde points to where the Gibraltar authorities installed cameras last week to broadcast the Spanish One enterprising tour guide petulance live on the Internet.

Hours later the Spanish retaliated by stringing a 20ft sheet of green canvas between two trees to block the cameras. They plan a more permanent barrier made of aluminium.

"The Berlin Wall has gone but on this frontier of the new free Europe we will have the Aluminium Blockade," says

Charles Collinson, the chief complaints officer, as drivers ask the reason for the delay.

tried to profit from the dispute yesterday. He went across the border to tempt tourists on the Costas to come to photograph the Rock's latest attraction -"stroppy Spanish cops causing Europe's worst traffic jam". They were ferried back and forth on motorscooters to beat

the queue that Gibraltarians

fear is without end.

Minister urges Blair to get tough with Spain

By DANIEL MCGRORY

THE Chief Minister of Gibraltar, Peter Caruana, tast night urged Tony Blair to "get tough" with Spain over the

border blockade. Mr Blair has arranged an Anglo-Spanish summit for April, but Mr Caruana said the Rock could not wait that long. 'Tourism is already down to 20 per cent of what it should be. Who is going to come for a day trip from Spain when it can take seven hours to get across the bor-

"The integrity of our financial centre is being slurred by allegations that we are money launderers ... the Foreign Office has applauded our stringent banking and financial laws, but this mud from Spain might stick."

The language on both sides of the border is far from diplomatic. Mr Caruana blame: the Spanish Foreign Minister Abel Matutes, who he says is "a liar, a hypocrite and an economic illiterate".

"He says we are parasites who should be eliminated. Language like that hasn't been used in Europe sinceNuzi Germany."

The dispute concerns proposals sent to Whitehall by Señor Matutes in December 1997 for a new sovereignty

There was a threat implied from Senor Matutes that if we didn't accept what he thought were very generous sovereignty proposals, there would be an aggressive campaign to bring us to our knees," Mr Caruana said. "I don't lose a minute's sleep thinking Tony Blair is going to give away Gibraltar but perhaps Senor Matutes thinks differently, so the Prime Minister should spell it out: 'We stay British'."



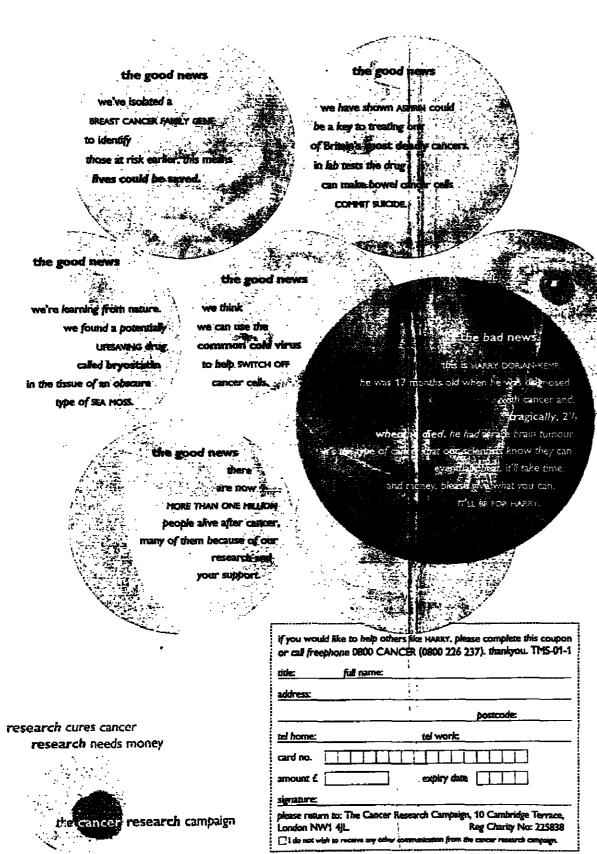
of the Gibraltar Frontier showing four-lane traffic and pedestnens queueing to get into Spain http://www.glbraitar.gl/ The Gibraitar homepage with links to the Gibraitar Tourist Board, Finance Centre and Port https://www.self-deten gl/ The website of the

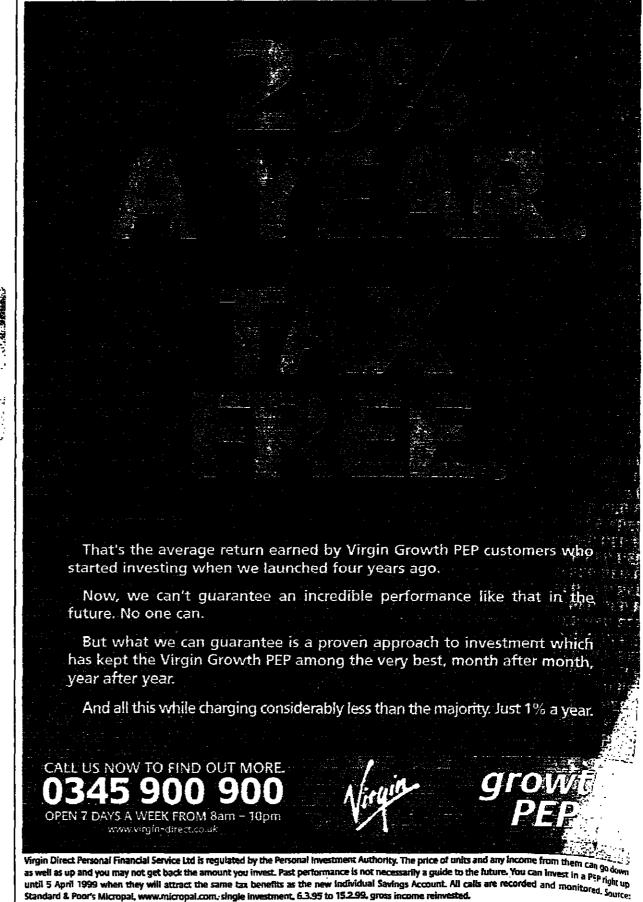


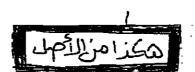




Gibraltar officials set up cameras to broadcast the source of the obstruction on the Internet, but the Spanish threw up a canvas screen. One business not affected by the dispute is the cross-border trade, in cigarettes







Caught in the conservation net

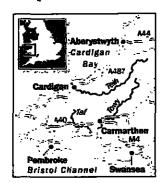
Efforts to save spring salmon include a ban on coraclemen writes Simon de Bruxelles

THERE is one species more endangered than the occasional spring salmon that makes a daring foray up the River Tywi in South Wales. The coracle fishermen, who

for generations have plied the river in their tiny cockle-shell boats, are the unintended vicrims of well-meaning but probably futile attempts to save the salmon. Just a dozen of the fishermen - largely nocturnal creatures - are left on the Tywi, compared with more than 300 at the turn of the century. Their main eatch is the plentiful sea trout, but as their ners could also entangle the early salmon they have been

caught in a nationwide ban. The fishing season will start today, but no one knows how long it will last. The Environment Agency wants to stop salmon fishing until June I to give stocks time to recover. As soon as Alun Michael, the Welsh Secretary, signs the new bylaws, the coracle men will have to hang up their nets. With their season cut to two months and no hope of recouping the cost of their £400 annual fishing licence, a 2,000-yearold way of life will end.

Last week. Mike Elias, the leader of Wales's last 25 licensed coracle fishermen, carried his tiny boat down to the Tywi for what he fears may be one of the last times. Mr Elias. 48, has been fishing the river since he was 12, as the men in his family have done for generations. By day he is an electrician, but every night during the season he is on the river. Anglers don't like the cora-



mercially, and the Environment Agency regards them as an economically irrelevant anachronism. Mr Elias's contention that the tradition is a part of Welsh heritage that should be preserved fell on unsympathetic ears - the agency says that as the coraclemen fish at night there is little chance of tourists seeing them.

voured by some fishermen since a dam was built on the Tywi near Llandovery in 1968, aground, and it says that their economic benefit to the region is insignificant. The agency does concede that there are the Tywi - Mr Elias says that the coraclemen caught just five salmon last year, all of them summer lish.

down from one generation to the next is already being broken. Peter Hopkins has refused all entreaties from his 15-year-old-son, Christopher,

"I was born on the quayside

Mike Elias carrying his coracle along the River Tywi in South Wales. "This is the first year since records began in the 1700s that there won't be an Elias on the river," he said.

The agency also objects to the fibreglass coracles falowering the level of the river and making it easier to run very few early-run salmon in

The chain through which the ancient skills are handed

in Carmarthen with my finger in the river." he said. "The Tywi runs through my blood. I don't want this to get into my son like it has got into me and then to have it taken away given him perfect balance.

The agency issues just 12 licences for the Tywi, 12 for the Teifi and one for the Taf. Most of the coraclemen have day jobs and fish at night for catches that, if they are lucky, will

just cover their expenses.
"I work during the day in order to be able to fish. No one could make a living out of it any more," Mr Elias said. "I remember when I used to go out with the old man and we would carry home 50 pounds of fish. Today you are doing very well if you catch ten pounds."

The coraclemen work in pairs, drifting downriver with their net strung out between them. At the end of each run they carry their coracles and their catch back to their starting point and begin again. It is not unusual for them to walk 20 miles in a night with the lightweight boats strapped to their backs. Mr Elias never wears a lifejacket, despite the fact that his coracle is no big-

ger than a bathtub and made only of pitch-covered calico and split hazel. He can't swim, but years of experience have

"That's the way it's always been in my family. The old-timers used to tie the young ones to the seat of the coracle with a couple of feet of rope so if it turned over they knew where to find them," he said.

What particularly galls the fishermen is that the National

Rivers Authority, the Environment Agency's predecessor was partly responsible for the dam that played a major part in the Tywi salmon's decline. The efforts of fish that manage to pass the dam and reach their spawning ground are wasted because runoff from conifer plantations has made the water too acidic for the fry to survive.

Last week's practice paddle could be the closest that Mr Elias gets to the river this season as he missed the January 1 licence application deadline. "It is bureaucracy at its

best," he said. " This is the first year since records began in the 1700s that there won't be an Elias on the river - and probably for long before that."

Letting fish off the hook puts hoteliers in fear

BY NICK NUTTALL ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

HOTELS renowned for salmon fishing are bracing themselves for "substantial losses" this season with the arrival of rules requiring anglers to throw fish back.

The Environment Agency is proposing bylaws on English and Welsh rivers to conserve stock by banning live bait and making it mandatory to throw back fish migrating to spawn-ing grounds until June 16. As the season started today

on some of the great salmon rivers, such as the Torridge and Torr in Devon, the proposals were awaiting the attention of ministers, who are expected to confirm them soon. Hoteliers on prime fishing

rivers claim that the rules, which rob anglers of the thrill of hooking and eating a prized fish, will cause many regulars to forsake Britain for salmon-fishing holidays

abroad Countries such as Chile, Argentina and Norway are being heavily promoted as alternatives

Up to a 100 hotels and their staff are likely to be affected by the bylaws. Philippa Hughes, who runs the Holme Chase Hotel on Dartmoor, said vesterday that the propos als were already putting fishermen off. "About 30 per cent of our business is during the fishing season, from May through to August," she said. At weekends, eight or nine of the hotel's 17 bedrooms would

be occupied by anglers.
"The indications are that this could be halved," Mrs Hughes said. Losses could amount to "tens of thousands

Charles Inniss, who owns the Half Moon Inn at Sheepwash, Devon, and ten miles of the Torridge, said that the

plans were a catastrophe. 'My season starts on March 1 and bookings are way, way

Mr Inniss, who is chairman of the local fisheries association, the Tor-Torridge Joint Consultative Committee, said that what angered it was the blanket way in which the Environment Agency had drawn up rules for all rivers irrespective of their different seasons and runs of fish. "We estimate they are taking away 60 per cent of our catch." He said there were volun-

tary conservation rules on the Torridge, including a maxmimum catch of two fish per angler for part of the season. Guy Mawie, fisheries officer at the Environment Agency, said that the proposals were confidential. Ministers could back them, reject them

or call for a public inquiry.

NEWS IN BRIEF the figure that counts

Two thirds of the women who have breast enlargement or reduction, at a cost of up to £5,000, earn less than £25,000 a year, according to a survey by a cosmetic surgery group.

The Harley Medical Group

said: "Cosmetic surgery is not these days for the frivolously rich and lavishly vain." The women wanted to look more "statistically normal" and to have figures that were in proportion, so that it was easier for them to find clothes in high-street stores that fitted. Most took some years to decide whether to have surgery.

School drug trip

Berkshire schoolchildren are to visit cannabis cafés in Amsterdam's red-light district as part of an education project to prevent drug abuse. The scheme, organised by Thames Valley Police, has angered some parents and teachers.

Oasis on Mars

Evidence of the whereabouts of water-bearing minerals on Mars has been found by astronomers using the Hubble space telescope. Regions containing rusted iron minerals such as haematite have also

Victim named

A teenager whose body was found by a policeman in Northampton on Saturday has been named as Andrew Boyce, 18. Police disclosed that he had been beaten to death in his bedsit, and his body dragged out and dumped on waste ground.

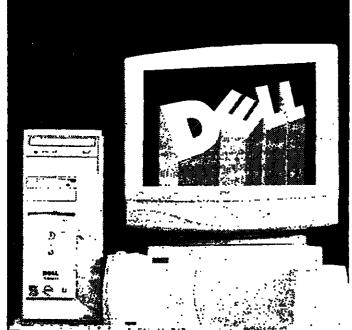
Tubby triumph

The BBC has commissioned 105 more episodes of Tele-tubbies. Filming by Ragdoll Productions will begin in the spring at the company's out-door set in Warwickshire for programmes that will be broadcast over three years.

Toad safety

A road in the Nottinghamshire village of Oxton will be closed for a month from today to let thousands of common toads cross safely from hibernation sites to breeding ponds. A third of the toads have been killed in previous years.

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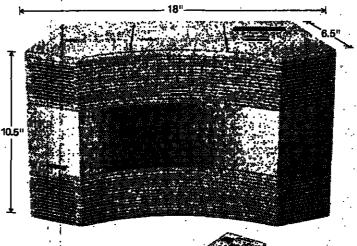
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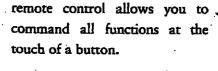
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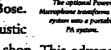
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Israelis hit back as top general in Lebanon killed

FROM NICHOLAS BLANFORD IN BELRUT

ISRAELI warplanes last night bombarded Hezbollah militia positions at Baalbek in eastern Lebanon after Israel's senior commander in south Lebanon was killed along with three others by a madside bomb near the village of Kawkaba in the border zone occupied by the

Hezbollah guerrillas as well as Lebanese and Syrian troops retaliated with anti-aircraft fire, reports said. Israel was also bombarded from Lebanon by either rockets or mortars, military officials said.

Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, fighting an election battle dominated by security issues, ordered the attack in retaliation for the death of Brigadier-General Erez Gerstein.

General Gerstein, 38, was the most senior Israeli officer to be killed in Lebanon since

the 1982 invasion. His death, coming less than a week after three officers from an elite Israeli commando unit were killed in a Hezboliah ambush, has added to the climate of uncertainty in Lebanon during the period preceding the elections in May. Seven Israelis have been killed in the occupation zone this year. Last year,

24 Israeli soldiers died and 100

Hezbollah, the Shia Muslim group which spearheads ef-forts to oust the Israeli Army from the occupation zone. claimed responsibility for the latest ambush. 'This operation confirms our determination to continue our struggle until we have liberated our land." Naim Qassem, Hezbollah's deputy secretary-general,

General Gerstein, two other soldiers and an Israeli journalist were killed when their convoy was targeted by the bomb ten miles north of the frontierwith Israel. The general's car

was destroyed.

Just 25 minutes ater, Hezbollah guerrillas detonated a second bomb along the same stretch of road as an Israeli military vehicle passed. The occupants were reported unhurt.

General Gerstein's death was greeted by jubilation among the Lebaness, but it re-newed fears that Mr Netan-yahu will repeat the actions of his predecessor. Shimon Peres, by unleashing a military offensive against Hezbol-lah to garner votes from the se-curity-conscious Israeli public.

In the run-up to the 1996 elec-tions, Mr Peres launched the 16-day Grapes of Wrath air and artillery offensive in which 170 Lebanese civilians were killed.



Binyamin Netanyahu on his arrival at Jordan's Royal Palace in Amman yesterday

Netanyahu anger Jordan with 'ally of Saddam' claim

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN AMMAN

THE Israeli Prime Minister. Binyamin Netanyahu, yesterday struggled to defuse a seri-ous crisis in relations with Jordan provoked by a speech in which he suggested that the Hashemite kingdom could again ally itself with Presi-dent Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

Mr Netanyahu's claim cast a shadow over his Amman talks yesterday with Jordan's new ruler, King Abdullah II — the first between the two since they spoke briefly at King Hussein's funeral. As Israeli officials mounted a damage control exercise after the speech provoked a furore in Jordan and among his politi-cal rivals in Israel, Mr Netanyahu tried to dismiss the dispute as a "storm in a teacup".

Hard-pressed Israeli diplomats denied that the King's re-fusal to appear at a joint press conference with the Israeli eader was a snub. One Israeli official said that yesterday's appearance of Mr Netanyahu with Fayez Tarawneh, the Jordanian Prime Minister. was "a matter purely of protocol and the fact that the King

is still in the 40-day offici

mourning period". Jordanian anger was refle ed by the Jordan Times which called Mr Netanyahu remarks a "gross misreprese tation of historical fact, der onstrating once again Netail yahu's complete lack of polit cal sophistication". The daipaper, one of Amman's mor moderate in its approach to the controversial 1994 Israel Jordan peace treaty, accuse him of "an inexcusable lack c

consideration towards Jordan's mourning.
In the speech Mr Netanythu reminded an Israeli university sity audience that the lat King had sided with Irac during the 1990 Gulf crisis and the war to oust Iraq troops from Kuwait launched

in 1991. Days earlier the new King had met the expected future ruler of Syria, Bashar Assad the son of President Assad and a leading Jordanian oppo sition member, Leith Shubeilat, had met Saddam. Both. contacts were seen as ominous by Western diplomats.

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WORLD IN BRIEF

Italian 'prejudice' outrages lecturers

Rome: More than 1,000 British and other foreign lecturers who teach at Italian universities will today present European socialist leaders with evidence that Italy is "breaking European Union law" by discriminating against them "on grounds of nationality" (Richard Owen writes).

The lecturers are staging a two-day strike to coincide with a conference in Milan to co-ordinate campaign plans for the forthcoming European parliamentary elections. Those at the meeting will include Tony Blair, Gerhard Schröder, the German Chancelfor and Lionel Jospin, the French Prime Minister.

Iraq says raid killed 3

Baghdad: Three Iraqis, including a child, were killed and several others were injured in US air raids on villages in the northern no-fly zone, an Iraqi military spokesman said. The US said in a statement earlier from Incirlik air base in Turkey that FISE fighter jets launched three air-to-ground missiles and dropped three laser-guided bombs on an Iraqi air defence head-quarters and radio relay site in the zone. (AFP)

Lusaka hit by blasts

ter six bombs exploded in and around the capital. A guard was killed by the blast at the Angolan Embassy. Bombs also exploded at the American International School and the headquarters of the electricity suppliers. "We are treating this as a security cri-sis." Vincent Malambo, Legal Affairs Minister, said. (Reuters)

Yeltsin back in hospital

Moscow: President Yeltsin was taken to hospital over the weekend in what has become a routine occurrence (Anna Blundy writes). The uleer that first incapacitated him in January is still bleeding, apparently because of too much activity by the President, and his doctor has recommended hospital observation and a decrease in Mr Yeltsin's already much-depleted workload.





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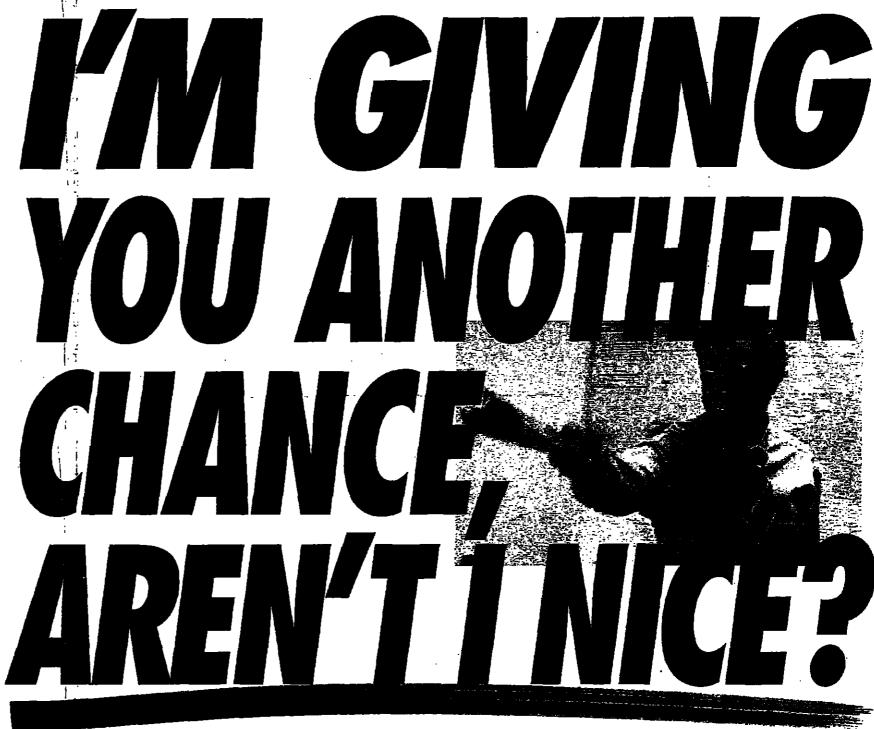
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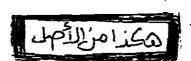


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Noor: beat up Anwar

Chief of police admits assault

By DAVID WATTS

MALAYSIA'S former police chief admitted through his lawyer at the inquiry yesterday into Anwar Ibrahim's injuries that he had beaten up the former Deputy Prime Minis-

The inquiry was told that Abdul Rahim Noor had "lost his cool" after Mr Anwar accused him of being the "father

of all dogs" and attacked him.
The admission of the assault is another blow to the reputation of the Mahathir Government and its officers, and Mr Anwar's accusation of a conspiracy against him is gaining credibility among more and

more Malaysians. Teh Poh Teik, Mr Noor's lawyer, said the former police chief had acted under great provocation. However, Mr Anwar denied giving any insult and said there had been no conversation between himself and the two officers who came to his cell after he was de-

tained last September 20. He was speaking at an in-quiry into allegations that he was beaten up after his arrest on charges of corruption and illegal sexual acts. The inquiry is being held separately from his trial on these charges.

Unusually, the hearing was held on a Sunday after the trial judge refused to adjourn hearings so that he might attend the inquity.

Nigeria poll rigged, claims loser NIGERIA'S fragile transition Observers say Obasanjo victory

from dictatorship to democracy was in jeopardy yesterday after Olu Falae refused to ac-cept the victory of his oppo-nent for the presidency. General Olusegun Obasanjo, amid widespread allegation of vote

rigging. Senior members of Mr Falae's All People's Party (APP) stormed out of the electoral commission offices and refused to continue participation in the counting process. The 1993 elections, which were won by Chief Moshood Abiola, were annulled by the then military leader. General Ibrahim Babangida who used

should stand despite cheating, Sam Kiley reports from Lagos

squabbling between politi-cians as an excuse to stay in office himself. Results from 31 of the 36 states yesterday showed a lead for General Obasanjo of more than five million votes. "I said if General Obasanjo won a free and fair election I would congratulate him but

clearly this is not a free and fair election," Mr Falae said in his home town of Akure. "The vote was completely

rigged," one of Mr Falae's aides said. "We have not had free and fair elections and Falae will contest this."

True to form, many Nigeri-ans could not resist the temptation to rig their own elections. Jimmy Carter, the former US President, and many other international observers across the county reported widespread irregularities. However, European Union

in line with the will of the Nigerian people, despite wide-

spread fraud.
"We judge that the result of the election reflects the wishes of the Nigerian people, marking the final and most important electoral stage in the transfer of power to a democratically elected civilian government," the EU monitors said in a statement.

However, the level of cheat-

ing appeared to be equally bal-anced between General Obasanjo's supporters and those of

International approval for the elections is essential to Nigeria which had been economi-cally crippled by 28 years of corrupt military rule out of the 38 since independence from

Mainly Western donors have prepared a \$1.5 billion (£900 million) rescue package for the world's sixth-largest oil producer which is unable to refine enough of its high-grade crude for domestic use because the military has deliberately run down refineries and profiled from imported

Fuel quitues lasting for days

products.

ants have to buy their petrol on the black market. General Obasanjo has

pledged to "make Nigeria great again" but he faces a Herculean task in ridding the country of corruption and attracting new investment. General Obasanjo, 6l, a

Baptist, did best in the north of the country where the mainly Muslim Hausa-Fulani tribes have traditionally feared a power shift to the South, the general's Yoruba heartland, where he polled the least votes. Mr Falae is also a Yoruba. The choice of both men as

choke Lagos, Nigeria's largest city. In Abuja, the newly-built inland capital, senior civil servcontestants for Nigeria's ulti-mate political prize was re-

garded as a means to reduce lensions between the north Ethiopia

daims

border

. dispute

victory in f

and south. The general has two months to form a Cabinet before being sworn in by the outgoing military leader. General Abdusa-laam Abubakar, on May 29. He said that his priorities

tion and bring economic growth to Nigeria. But Nigerians have heard it all before. Picking through rubbish in Lagos, Ben Oluwolale, a beggar, shrugged his shoulders. What will democracy ever mean to me? I am nothing, we

Nigerians are nothing to our

leaders," he said.

would be to stamp out corrup-

Australia trims its fighting forces

FROM DAVID WATTS IN SYDNEY

THE Australian Army is turfing out tubby troops who it says are too fat to fight. Under a policy to weed out weaklings, almost 700 officers and other ranks- some of them women — are packing their kit-

bags for civvy street.
They failed to meet the army's requirement that they must be able to run 1.5 miles in less than 12 minutes; pass a shooting test every year; be ready to travel overseas within 30 days and be medically fit with a good set of teeth.

In the first year of the new rules, five officers and 42 soldiers were shown the door. Another 40 officers, including five senior lieutenant-colonels and 607 other ranks, have been given notice of discharge.

The revelation comes in the week Australia lost one of the few remaining legendary dig-gers who created the army's reputation at Gallipoli, a reputation for toughness reinforced in Vietnam but which appears to have slipped despite involvement in more post-Second World War conflicts than Britain.



Refugees flee Indonesia island riots

Ambon: Some 1,300 people fled this riot-torn Indonesian city yesterday amid mounting tensions following the explosion of a homemade bomb

late on Saturday.

A local journalist said there were no immediate reports of casualties

Refugees in Ambon scramble on to a Jakarta-bound vessel while, above left, Indonesian soldiers help a baby to board the ship in Saturday night's bomb explosion at the town of Ahuru. "Many houses, churches and mosques were burnt but we cannot confirm the numbers yet," he said.

Homemade explosives have been used frequently in recent clashes be-

tween Muslims and Christians in Indonesia's eastern spice islands. More than 160 people died in savage rioting in January and another flare-up has killed at least 24 in the

Meanwhile, people jammed Am-

bon's port in an attempt to flee the city, which is 1,440 miles east of the capital. There are about 1,300 people at Ambon's port rushing to board a ship heading for Jakarta,"

said a witnes "I am scared of beine killed, I am also worried for my family's safety,' one man said. Indonesia has been racked by

waves of ethnic and religious unrest over the past year, fuelled by the country's worst economic crisis in

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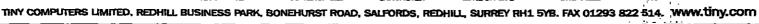
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Ethiopia claims victory in border dispute

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE United Nations Security Council called at the weekend for an immediate halt to the fighting between Ethiopia and Eritrea amid fears that the newly landlocked Ethiopians would try to reclaim Red Sea ports ceded to their smaller neighbour when it gained inde-Fresh from her failure to

pendence in 1993. The Ethiopian Government declared "total victory" yester-day in the eight-month border conflict, after its troops recaprured the disputed 120-squaremile Badme plain. Eritrea said, however, that there was a fresh Ethiopian assault along the 60-mile front and UN officials expressed concern that Ethiopia might try to press on to the coast.

The rulers of the two countries were long-time allies in the civil war against the Ethiopian dictator. Mengistu Haile Mariam, whom they ousted in 1991. When Eritrea gained independence two years later, the two states were bailed as leaders of an "African Renaissance". A bitter rivalry developed, however, when Eritrea established its own currency. the nafka, in 1997 to replace the Ethiopian birr.

The deterioration in relations meant that Ethiopia was no longer able to trade through its former ports of Massawa and Assab, rendering it dependent on neighbouring Djibouti for access to the Red Sea. A full-scale war broke out last May when Eritrea seized Badme, an area on the border which was populated by ethnic Eritreans but under Ethiopian administration and was not demarcated.

Shuttle diplomacy by envoys from the United States and the UN failed to defuse the conflict, as Eritrea rejected a peace plan put forward by the Organisation of African Unity calling for its withdrawal. Ethiopia's crushing victory on Friday prompted Eritrea to reverse course and hurriedly accept the OAU plan in what diplomats took as a sign that the Eritrean Government feared that Ethiopia would seize more land.

Albright talks tough as China relations sour

By James Pringle and Ian Brodie

WITH tensions mounting in Sino-American relations, Mad-eleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, and her Chinese hosts will engage in tough talking today, setting the scene for next month's first official visit ω Washington of Zhu Rongji, China's Prime Minister.

push through a Kosovo agreement, Ms Albright acknowledged to a congressional committee, before leaving for two days in Beijing where she arrived last night, that "sharp differences" have emerged with China since the high water mark of President Clinton's visit eight months ago. Indeed, that deteriorating relationship is considered a prime reason why Mr Clinton has been unable to find a high-profile replacement Ambassador for Beijing when James Sasser

"Let me stress," said Ms Albright, in defence of Washington policy, "that in our dealings with China, engagement is not endorsement". There is supposed to be a "strategic partnership" between the two nations, but this fuzzy phrase cannot disguise the triple blow that Washington delivered to China last week

First there was the decision to deny the sale of a US-made satellite to China for a mobile phone network that, according to the Pentagon, would also have helped the Chinese to make their intercontinental missiles more accurate. The second was a Pentagon report on China's missile build-up onposite Taiwan, and the third, a stiff rebuke to China over its human rights record.

The State Department's an-nual report — which angered the Chinese - described crackdowns against organised political opposition and accused China of extra-judicial killings, torture and maltreatment of prisoners, forced confessions and arbitrary arrests.



Ms Albright is met by Lu Xumin, a Chinese official

To make matters worse, the crackdown on dissidents continued in the run-up to the Albright visit, prompting the Senate to call on the Administration, with a 99-0 vote on Thursday, to promote an anti-China resolution at this month's United Nations Human Rights Commission meeting in

The resolution underlined that the Administration is under enormous domestic pressure not to pull its punches on China, despite concerns at the damage such criticism can do to other US interests such as trade and the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Non-government Chinese experts in Washington suspect that Mr Clinton and Ms Albright have left relations with Beijing on auto-pilot between visits, unaware that they were swerving off-course. There seems scant understanding that the end of the Cold War has made the Chinese more distrustful of America, especially those in power who remember that Henry Kissinger and his successors co-opted them to gang up on the Soviet Union. Using this argument, Chinese leaders can advance the notion that they are Washington's targets now.

Other issues loom large, including America's \$57 billion trade deficit with Beijing; US plans to develop a missile defence system to protect its Asian allies: and Congressional allegations that China may have obtained access to US technology to improve mis-siles and nuclear weapons.



The Rev Henry Lyons, flanked by his lawyers, listens to the guilty verdicts in his Florida fraud trial

Church leaderer fails to find a friend in Jesus

THE leader of America's largest black religious organisation, who used to punetuate his sermons on sin with cries of "I'm doing some preaching now". walked from court without a word after being found guilty of swindles running to

millions of dollars. Henry Lyons, 57, faces up to eight years in prison but he refused to resign as president of National Baptist Convention USA. Rather, said a defence lawyer, he was go-ing home to pray at his church in St Petersburg, Florida, where he is still pastor.

The guilty verdict by the all-white jury in Largo, Florida, ended a career of sex, flamboyance and deceit conducted under the cloak of God's name.

Lyons was convicted of racketeering by helping him-self to more than \$4 million (£2.5 million) from corporations wanting to sell cemetery plots, life insurance and credit cards to his national membership, which he claimed to be 8.5 million strong. In fact, said the prosecution, it was closer to one million.

Bernice Edwards, 42. his organisation's public relations director and his suspected mistress, was cleared of racketeering.
It was the alleged affair

that led to Lyons being caught. His enraged wife Deborah set fire to a luxurious waterfront home that he had bought with Ms Edwards.

The episode prompted a police investigation that uncovered an extravagant spending spree by Lyons, including a timeshare flat in Nevada, several luxury cars, expensive furs and a dia-

Ian Brodie in Washington on Baptist preacher found guilty of \$4 million fraud

mond ring "the size of a dime". He was alleged to have lavished gifts on several mistresses

Meanwhile. Lyons was duping the companies seeking his membership list by sending them names from computerised telephone directories.

This scam led to letters being sent such non-Baptists

as a grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan and a Catholic Lyons denied the charges

throughout. Even as damning documentary evidence piled up. he and his lawyers constantly predicted that God would deliver him. When the jury retired to

consider its verdict. Lyons and Ms Edwards who denied having an affair with him, joined hands with others outside the court to sing: What a Friend We Have in Jesus".

Charles Embery, led the group in prayer, asking God to help the jury come to the

right" verdict. But after 12 hours of deliberation, the five women and one man said they found the evidence against Lyons compelling. And he still faces a federal trial on 54 counts of tax evasion, money laundering and extortion.

Voyeurs of the world braced for revelation of the full Monica

By IAN BRODIE

THE week of the full Monica Lewinsky treatment opened yesterday with assorted leaks, including an admission that she ignored her mother's advice to end her affair with President Clinton.

A well-orchestrated media blitz on and, the network hopes, an audiboth sides of the Atlantic will see Ms ence approaching Super-Bowl pro-

Lewinsky telling her side of the story on television, as well as the release of her book written with Andrew Morton, newspaper serialisations and more interviews. The first interview will be on Wednesday in America on ABC, when Ms Lewin-sky will admit to Barbara Walters —

portions - that her relationship with Mr Clinton was an emotional roller coaster and that she became depressed as it disintegrated. She was extremely fragile by the

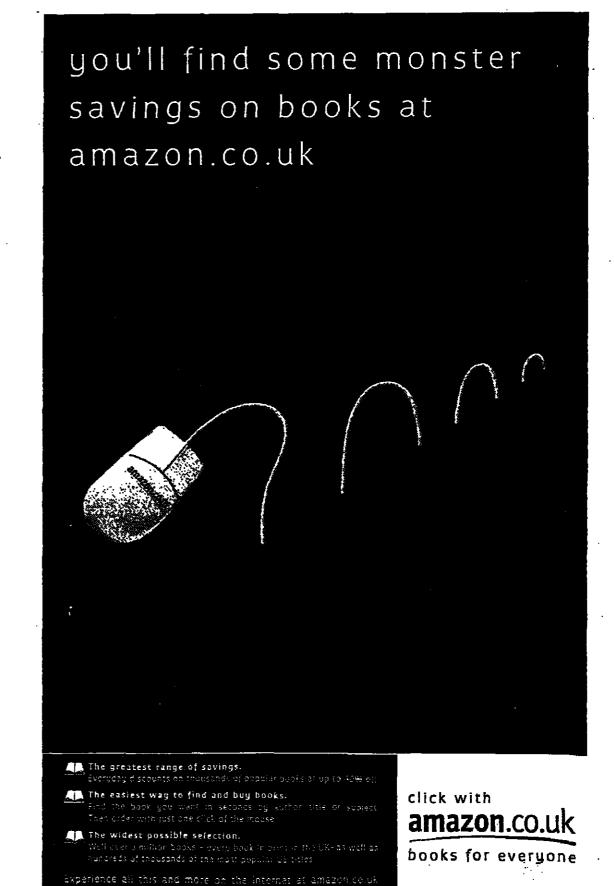
time Kenneth Starr's prosecutors found her, Ms Walters told Newsweek, and they "pushed her over the top", making her leel desperate. Earlier, Ms Lewinsky's mother, Marcia Lewis, had tried to persuade her to end the relationship. Ms Lewinsky admits that her stubbornness kept

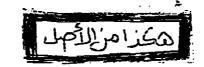
her from heeding the advice. Ms Lewinsky says she believes that, at the start of the affair, Mr Clinton was genuinely remorseful. Now, she says, the man she sees on television is all politician, sorry only that he got caught. Ms Lewinsky explains how prosecutors came to know about the infamous cigar escapade. She had described the incident to friends who were then called before the Grand Jury, so by the time she made her appearance the jurors knew all the salacious details.

Ms Lewinsky found that, of all the things written about her, comments about her weight hurt her the most. But she kept her sense of humour, repeating a joke about herself to Ms Walters that was considered too bawdy to broadcast.

Ms Lewinsky makes a public apology to the American people. Asked if she is still in love with the President. she says no, but there have been times when she feels "kind of warm"







mark birth of Balkan conflict

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN LIKOSANE, KOSOVO

A COMMEMORATIVE service on a mud-slick plateau outside the village of Likosane yesterday marked the first anniverary of the Kosovo war's bloody birth. About 3.000 ethnic Albani-

ans gathered beside the graves there a year ago. Except for the continuous buzzing of a Serb observation plane flying overhead and the tedious speeches of Kosovo Liberation Army commanders competing with the whine of feedback from a faulty speaker system, the scene was strangely silent; the crowd, familiar now with the depredations of conflict, was subdued and seemingly drained of emotion.

The skies on February 28 last year were the same blue. the ground the same snow-scabbed mud of spring thaw. But war was alien then. So, as they went about their business that day nobody in Likosane, a farming community 25 miles north-west of Pristina, could have anticipated what was to befall them.

On the eastern side of the village, caught between fields and a track junction, grows a legendary oak tree. Two hundred years ago, according to the village elders, the shoots from six acorns entwined to-

gether as they grew.

As a sapling, the oak was protected from livestock by the villagers, who watched it grow over the years into six equal trunks from one root. The tree was known as the Six Brothers: the latest phase in the death of Yugoslavia — six republics previously linked by the brotherhood and unity of Tito-era communism — started beneath the Six Brothers.

Last year, when the KLA was little more than a myth, a group of armed guerrillas drove past the oak. As they did so. Serb police hiding in a farmhouse sprung an am-bush. One of the KLA men. Sabit Lladrovci, was hit. His companion, Rasim Kecina. fired at a police vehicle with a machine-gun. Two policemen died. The war had started.



A British Challenger tank with the King's Royal Hussars arrives in Krivolac, in Macedonia, as part of the proposed Nato peacekeeping force

Kosovo peace recedes as Serbs mass on border

them that an Albanian signa-

ture at the next phase of talks.

on March 15 at Evreux in Nor-

mandy, would increase pres-

sure on Belgrade to come to an

But Western military advis-

ers and international monitors

fear that Kosovo will be beyond salvation by March 15.

and that the Contact Group's

hopes for Nato to come into a

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SERB forces massed in their thousands in and around Kosovo yesterday as the province was engulfed in new fighting that threatens to shatter the fragile peace process.

Western military advisers said there were now more troops in Kosovo than at any time last year, and feared that Belgrade might be about to partition the province. Brian Donnelly, the British

Ambassador to Belgrade, yesterday urged the Yugoslav Army and Serb police to rein Meeting Kosovo Liberation

Army leaders at one of their central headquarters in the village of Ladrovac, Mr Donnelly said he hoped Belgrade could control the thousands of security troops now deployed around the province in breach of the October ceasefire rules.

The ethnic Albanians, he

Envoy calls for restraint as fears grow of plans to partition province, writes Tom Walker in Belgrade

said, had to be given the chance to understand the Contact Group peace proposal. But as his Range Rover ploughed through the snow and mud of the Drenica region there were reports of hostage-taking, attacks on police stations and Yugoslav Army units taking up positions along the southern and northern borders of the province.

"I can confirm fighting and shooting," said Beatrice Lacoste, a spokeswoman for the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe observer mission in Pristina, Kosovo's capital.

Mr Donnelly met two of the

tle more than a pipe dream. The planners are barking

mad and I've told them so," said one of the most experienced advisers in the province. The Yugoslav generals will have to fight." He described the new Yugoslav Army hierar-Albanian delegates to the first peace conference at Rambouillet, Jakup Krasniqi, the KLA spokesman, and Ram Buja, chy as being almost entirely obedient to President Milosethe group's political adviser. vic's wishes. Mr Krasniqi said the "will of the people had to be ex-pressed". Mr Donnelly told

"benign environment" are lit-

On Saturday French moni-tors counted 71 shells landing near the village of Bukos, which has now been besieged by the Yugoslav Army for five days in what Belgrade has cynically called "a winter exer-

The special interior ministry police units that will have to leave Kosovo altogether under the Contact Group plan were also poised for action last night, as they joined the Yugoslav army in chasing the KLA

and up to 3,000 new refugees south from the town of Kacinik, on the road south to Macedonia. Earlier the KLA had fired on the police station there, killing one officer and in-

juring four others.
The police were also preparing an offensive against KLA villages near the town of Orahovac, where two Serbs were kidnapped on Saturday. As British monitors persuaded the police to hold off their attack, two bodies were found dumped on the main road south of Orahovac. They were not thought to be those of the Serbs, whom the KLA hinted

hey were still holding. Mr Donnelly warned that he suspected there "were still some quarters" in Belgrade where it was believed the KLA could be eliminated.

New wave of skiers arrive as Tyrol mourns

FROM ROGER BOYES IN INNSBRUCK

CHURCH bells rang out the length and breadth of Austria vesterday as the country mourned the 38 victims of the worst Alpine avalanche for several decades. The coffins of the victims - the last, a 14-yearold German girl, was dug out of a wrecked cellar on Saturday - were lined up in the St Wilten monastery chapel outside Innsbruck.

Tears streaked the faces of relatives, many of whom survived the disaster as snow raced down the mountainside last week at speeds of up to



Relatives of victims at the Innsbruck service

190 mph to engulf Galtūr in the Tyrol. Others, such as the mother of two young boys killed in the avalanche, were too distraught to attend.

The service was attended by Viktor Klima, the Austrian Prime Minister, who declared yesterday a day of mourning, Manfred Stolpe, the Prime Minister of Brandenburg who was representing the 21 German victims, and Swiss government officials.

Several hundred tourists nevertheless arrived in the Tyrol yesterday, anxious to make use of the deep snow and emppistes. The authorities who ad cleared many of the main approach roads in western Austria at the weekend denied that they had done so to encourage new tourists. Hoteliers, most of them heavily in debt, had been anxious that nobody would want to come to

the Paznaun valley.

The village of Galtur was opened at the weekend for the first time in a week and the full scope of the damage could be studied by reporters.

"We are still under shock," said the local innkeeper Siegmund Wolfhard, sobbing quietly as he made a bonfire of destroved timber

But four-year-old Alexander Walter, who was found under the snow almost two hours after being hit by the avalanche in Valzur, was yesterday said to be playing with toy helicop-ters in his hospital bed, on his way to a complete recovery.

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Schröder's strategy fails the EU test

week, are danger-ous. So too, are summits for untried politicians working with clumsy sherpas. Ger-hard Schröder, in his first real test as a European lead-er, fumbled his way through a complicated brief at the informal EU summit last Friday and left people wonder-ing whether he will ever quite gain the stature of Hel-

The weekend reviews of the Chancellors performance - in the German, Brit-ish, French and Italian press - were poor, even if France and Spain were sometimes identified as the "real" problem. In Germany, the Chan-cellor's smiling appearance on prime-time talk and quiz shows was contrasted unfavourably with his uncertain touch with fellow European

leaders.

I think that the Chancellor is being too harshly judged at home. It was never going to be easy to rule with the Democrats have always been uneasy in power. Herr Schröder's skills, honed as Prime Minister of a Red-Green regional government in Lower Saxony, are tacti-cal rather than strategic. He has led two great retreats in his first 100 days of government — edging away from Green plans to scrap nuclear waste recycling contracts. and showing himself respon-sive to public discontent about proposed changes to the nationality laws. Yet in both cases he managed to

feat for the Greens. The Chancelion's technique, applied against his rival. Oskar Lafontaine, and the Green Environment Minister, Jürgen Trittan, is to let troublesome Cabinet ministers over-extend themselves and then suddenly take a quick step backwards. Public outery is directed at the errant politicians while the Chancellor, whose popularity ratings remain high, is seen as the man who listens

present his U-turns as a de-

to the people.

The medium-term strategy is to shed the Greens as a partner and lead a grand coalition, either with the debilitated and suitably grateful Christian Democrats, or with the tiny Free Demogun — the Government is having to deal with both parties since it has just lost its overall majority in the upper house, the Bundesrat. Where, one might ask, is

the meat in the sandwich? According to the official line, the theme of this Gov**INSIDE GERMANY**



erament is the war on unemployment. Cutting the number on the dole by half a million is the undeclared goal by the next election in 2002. The next governing term, preferably with a different partner, would be dedicated to the thorough-going modernisation of German society. There are still well over four million unemployed and little progress has been made since the general election last autumn. The Chancellor managed to bring employers and unions together last week for the first session of an "alliance for johs". This demonstrated a Schröder strength — to bring warring sides together and act as a kind of anchor

the German leader took a similar approach to European policy and it was in this spirit that he chaired the summit high up in Petersberg over-looking the Rhine. After a day's hard slog on Agenda 2000, he understood at last that the tricks of domestic political management cannot be applied to the European

some kind of European financing deal will be struck in Berlin at the end of this month. But the Chancellor needs to grasp some of the fundamentals. First, if Germany wants to play a lead-ing role in Europe, it has to pay for it. Germany will always be the chief paymaster of Europe — that is the essence of its power, if it pays less (and makes a big issue out of paying less) its power will diminish accordingly. Second, it cannot have an open confrontation with France and win (at least off the battlefield).

Herr Kohl understood his francophile sherpa Joachim Bitterlich, was to find ways in which the French could privately surrender positions and yet not lose face. Herr Schröder's foreign policy adviser, Michael Steiner, has not yet adviser. mastered this technique.

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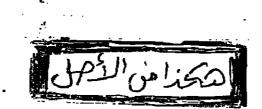
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Surrey's own Oskar Schindler

In a quiet corner of Guildford lives Henk Huffener, an embarrassed hero who saved dozens of Jews from the Nazis. Interview by Grace Bradberry

house, off the Guildford-Dorking road, is not merely in the Surrey stockbroker belt - it is at its very buckle. He has lived here for 40 years, and although various artistic types have beaten a path to his door (his friends include sculptors, photogra-phers and writers), no one in the village has taken much

"If anything, people have ignored me," he says, in his clipped Dutch accent. "I'm foreign. I don't belong to the stockbrokers" cub." And who would expect this 76-year-old man, with a wedge of grey hair sticking out beneath a bald pate, to have anything remarkable to say? But his neighbours have just received a jolt from the local papers. Huffener, it transpires, Has A Past, "I don't want to go out any more. It's ridiculous," he says, waving a hand irritably.

You might surmise from this that he is one of those benign old men who turns out to be a former Nazi. In fact, he is that more remarkable character, a hidden hero. From 1941 to 1945, will have Huffener saved dozens. if not hundreds, of lives, He spied on German troop movements. with me' helped to secure an escape route to Switzerland, evacu-

ated a kibbutz and hid numerous families in safe houses, even finding a place for a girl with Down's syndrome. He was imprisoned in a slave labour camp, escaped, carried on.

to come

Last month Huffener, a retired antiques dealer and qualified psychologist, travelled to the Israeli Embassy in London, accompanied by his wife Margaret and 50 friends and relatives. He became only the 13th British citizen to be honoured with Yad Vashem's "Righteous Among The Nations" award. He felt, he says, "virtual embarrassment" the medal has joined his Dutch Resistance Cross, worm only twice, on a sna clunered basement.

His story begins in 1941, in an isolated house in a wood outside Bildhoven. This was the home of the Huffeners father (an engineer), stepmother and seven children. They were a cultured, sociable fami-"We were right in the sticks. That's important - no one overlooked us." When

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Huffener's father began holding Resistance meetings at the house, there was no one to see. 'My father was an incredibly kind, brave person. He never

showed any anxiety at all."

The rest of his family seems to have inherited this temperament. Huffener's sister Ann looked after a safe house, about a mile from the family home, that was a crucial staging post on an escape route used to smuggle Allied pilots, diplomats and Jews, first to Switzerland, then to Spain. Huffener was involved in this work. His younger brother, Joep, made friends with a doctor who was transmitting messages to London, and Huffener provided the doctor with information about German troop movements. "I was 18 but I looked 14 and 1'd chat to the soldiers. I'd be cheerful and gormless and say gosh, are you really going in that direction?" The Germans eventually detected the doctor's aerial and

stormed his house. "They caught him red-handed; he was 'You can't taken away and shot. That was the stay here: end of my spying," says Huffener. The baby Despite its grim

was to be only the first of Henk's Resistance exploits. A friend of his, Paul Koning — later a successful sculptor introduced Huffener to Loekie Metz. a young Jew-

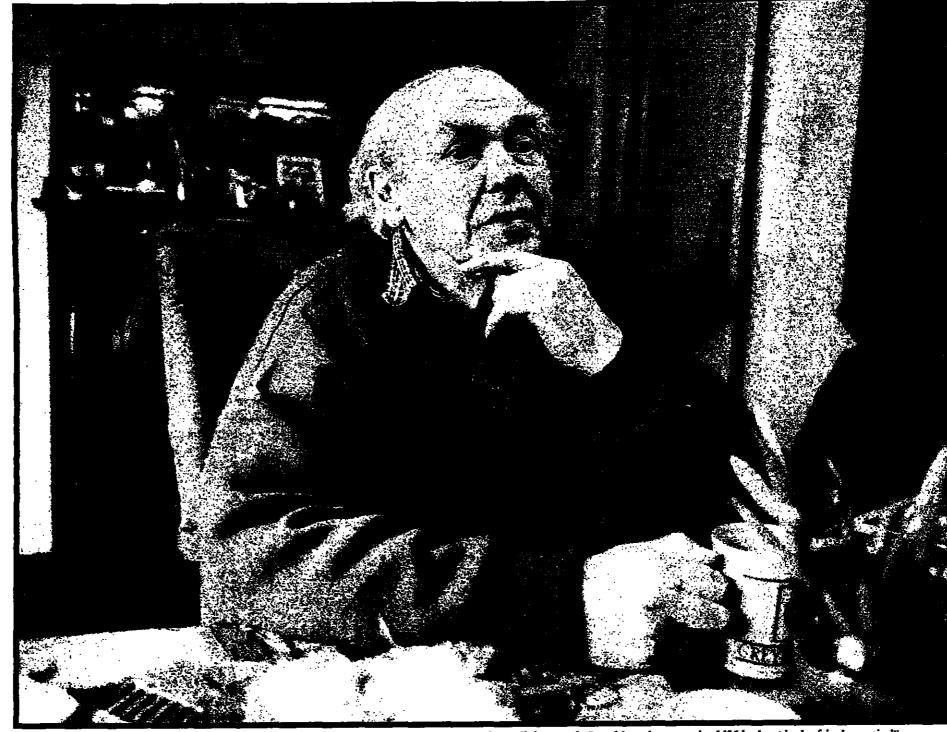
ish woman who was staying at a German Zionist kibbutz near Loosdrecht. "in March 1942 a tip came that they had less than a month to fold up the kibbutz and get out. The Germans were very fond of the idea of 'way folk', as they were then called - young people going up country, hikers and bikers." So Huffener and others would go unnoticed as they cycled through the countryside, accompanied by one or two members of the kibbutz. It was an audacious and dangerous mission. On one occasion he was stopped by German soldiers while escorting an obviously Jewish-looking girl who spoke no Dutch. He Germans that they must be off or they would be in trouble with their parents, and got

away with it. The naivety of some of those he saved now seems extraordinary. Huffener visited the same girl's parents in a bleak Jewish district of Amsterdam. The father produced a black velvet cushion displaying a

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Henk Huffener: "I have not suppressed the grim things but I don't want to relate them all that much. I could not have survived if I had not had a frivolous mind"

medal. "He said That is an Iron Cross First Class. I am exempted from deportation'. But I said 'Don't believe them'." His plea went unheeded. In all, 110,000 Jews regis-

tered with the Jewish Council and obeyed the instruction to move to the ghettos.

Those who went into hiding needed constant support. "In Anne Frank's story you never hear about the people who susout. He became one of those people, moving about the country, never giving his full name. establishing a false address and carrying false papers. In 1943 he was arrested

while making a trip to Arnhem, where some of the kibbutz residents were hidden in a warehouse. He was charged with minor offences - not having an appropriate travel document and not having registered for work or study - and was questioned at Gestapo headquarters. He sat in the cells for two months. "I got very nervous because I thought somebody would twig. My last scene of crime. the warehouse, was only 300 yards away."
Finally he was sent to a

slave labour camp in Germany, where he endured 16-hour shifts, inadequate food and poor sanitation. Through resourcefulness, he talked his way first into a skilled job, then an office position, before wangling canteen lunches, wages and, ultimately, a leave permit.

He still has it — a piece of A5

paper, panerned like a driving licence, with the words "until further notice" audaciously typed by Huffener himself. quality insurance There is a stamp from the local police station, where he en-FREE 24 hour dured a 20-minute wait before officials finally gave up trying to check his story. and legal belolines

He arrived back in Holland FREE pen with to discover that the SS had got hold of his name and had raidyour quotation ed his father's home. He moved to Amsterdam and Call us today looked up a cousin whose husband was a land agent. For your quotation Huffener was given access to simply call us on the empty properties and lived in one, hiding Jewish people in number below. To

"I trotted around Amsterplease have all dam, very much a wanted per-son, and every time I'm relevant details to stopped by the police, I say Twe got this pass. That paper hand when you call. **≈**0800 saved my life right through to the end of the war." 414 525 Huffener's most extraordi-

nary achievement, perhaps,

was to save an entire extended

family. Before his imprison-

ment, while he was still in Am-

hem, a friend approached him

about an old couple who

owned a soft-furnishings com-

pany. They had two daugh-

ters, one with Down's syn-

drome. Through his sister

Ann. Huffener found a psychi-arrist who would look after the

girl in an institution. He took her across Holland first on the

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The Huffener family's isolated home near Bildhover

train, then on the back of his bike. "We sailed up the drive, the girl screeching with joy because she'd never had a ride on the back of a bike before." Next he had to look after the couple's other daughter, who had moved to Arnhem with He seems reluctant to her husband. "I was told They are in a flat where they are not

e knew that he could hide the couple - but not with their Through his sister, he found a foster home for the child. "I went to this couple and said 'You can't stay here. I'm asking you to let the baby come with me'. It was a very tearful

meant to be. The son-in-law is

sitting on the balcony with a

fag and a newspaper, and the

neighbours have seen. They

have a four-month-old baby

screaming at night. It's a mat-

ter of a week or two and they

scene." Finally, they agreed. In 1945 the family were reunited. "All three generations came back. Absolutely marvellous." The young couple moved to Israel and, although they sometimes visited England and knew Huffener's address, they never visited him. "I can understand." he says. "I wasn't all that popular with them, having wrenched their child away. There was an aspect of embarrassment about it. What are you supposed to do? Say thanks? You don't do it for thanks."

So why did he do it? Why risk death to save strangers when so many others did not? gins. "it's difficult to say. I'm probably a bit odd in that I love cultural diversity . . . "

acknowledge his courage: "I ve not suppressed the grim things, but I don't want to relate them all that much. couldn't have survived if hadn't got a frivolous mind." He drifts into another anec-

dote. He has just moved to Am-

sterdam and has not yet found the land agent cousin with the spare houses. Instead he is in a grim flat, on the edge of a ghetto, sheltering with an old Jewish couple who have decided that they want to die. "A great troop of Germans come over the wooden bridge and spread out over the street. They start shouting 'Every body downstairs with your bundles'. We're on the second floor. Beneath us is a West Indian man playing his saxophone. They go up the stairs. smashing the door. He comes out in his pyjamas. They shout at the guy Juden, Juden. He says 'I'm not a Jew'. They say No, we know, you're a nigger. He assures them that there is nobody upstairs and they turn and go downstairs."

So the old Jewish couple, I ask, did they decide they wanted to live after all? "No," says Huffener shortly. They killed themselves that night with cyanide pills."

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Every five years or so,

its Maker. But despite

all the hand-wringing,

much alive. Photographs

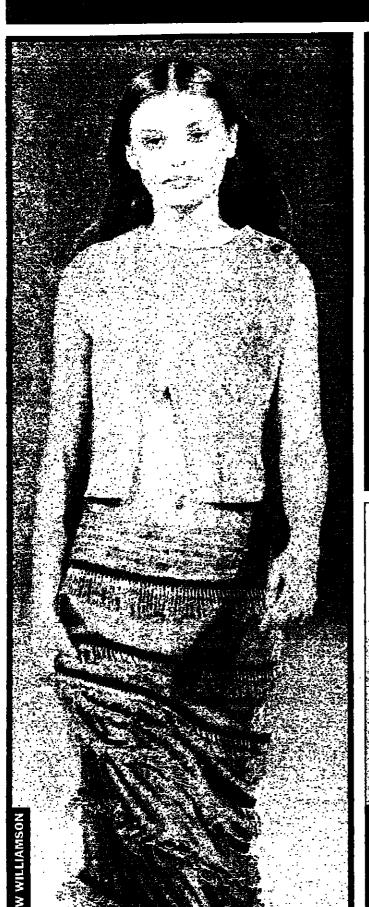
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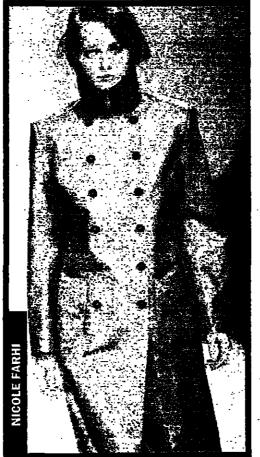
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London Fashion Week is

supposedly about to meet

LONDON FASHION WEEK



















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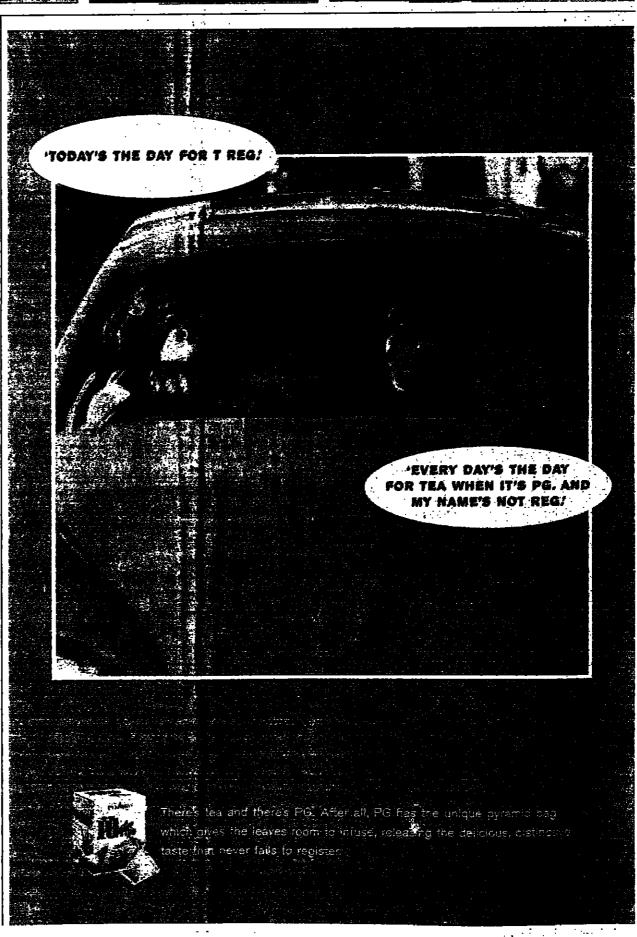
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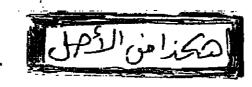
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CHANGING TIMES





At I clothe can

The National States

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LONDON FASHION WEEK

At last: clothes you can wear

t was the high-pitched squeal emanating from the depths of a scrum at-Hussein Chalayan's show last Wednesday that reminded one of the good old days of London. "No. you cannot sit there on the floor blocking the stage." screeched the voice, with all the authority of a castrato teenager trying to impose order at a party held

while parents are away. Too late. Chaos reigned, in direct contrast to the beautiful Zen-like collection that eventually appeared to a soundtrack resembling a 12in remix of a nuezzin's call. The centralheating system had collapsed, the vodka flowed, and deeply groovy people with most of their hair missing mingled with high-powered American fashion editors with most of their pantyhose missing (both sects have an awe-inspiring

dedication to The Look). And then it was on to the fabulously happening Vision-naire party at Harvey Nichols to celebrate the latest issue of the world's most fashionable magazine. This was the fashion world casting pashminas and cares to the wind; plenty of celebrities, pole dancers and exotic Dai Rees headwear (and that was just the waiters) and not a glimpse of the product. The usual fashion scenario, in other words, except that no one from Oasis got into a fight this time, unlike the unseemly tangle at Tommy Hilfiger's shop opening the previous night.

That was London: shows that were lovely, but you couldn't see much because of the dry ice or the dark; parties FASHION EDITOR

ly, so that he can reach more

customers in the United States. London fashion had

better get over i'. The good news is that there are plenty of

newcomers jostling, if not to take his place, trun at least to

make a mark of their own. As

the week wore on, more of

them sprang up on an alterna-

tive schedule, clashing merrily

with official shame and creat-

ing havoc all round. But thank

heavens for them - they

shone as boldly and brightly

Not all the Young Turks were everything you might

have hoped for. Robert Cary-

Williams's tastefully named

Victorian Car Crash collection

cast a lot of calamine-pink zips

in starring roles: they trailed

from bits of half-finished cloth

ENGLISHNESS: tweeds, sheepskin, checks,

Tanna lawn prints, argvle and cable knits -

and wear in an unconventional mix. VOLUME:

the new skirt/dress has flare. COLOURS: pumpkin (challenging),

lichen (easier), black and white (mevitable) capes. MOOD: Antarc-

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tica — tons of fur (fake and otherwise); hooded cable-knits.

as daisies on a pristine lawn.

and much hard-wringing halfway down the catwalk and about whether the entire event co-starred with some chalis in its death throes. It's all so endearingly famil:ar. Every lenging footwear. Full marks for imagination then, though

five years or so Landon fash-Marks & Spencer probably won't be rushing to sign him. ion is supposedly about to meet its Maker. Someone cries Still, if London Fashion wolf. It was dangerously fash-Weeks of distant history were ionable, so inevitably it had to about creative anarchy, partake a dip.
The uncertainty about Alexties and three-legged trousers. now the event is also about ander McQueen - will-he/ won't-he show in New York things you might actually want to wear, even if this seanext time? - didn't help. He is son was by no means a collecgoing for one season, apparenttive tour de force.

You might, for instance, be sorely tempted by any number of pieces by Matthew Williamson, who presented his best collection since his catwalk debut in 1997. The catalyst for this show, called Glomad (Day-Glo meets nomads), was the all-white hotel room in which he stayed during a recent visit to India. All-white decor is not really compatible with Williamson, who has forged a reputation for exotic colour and delicate detailing. He bought some cheap neon saris, placed them over the lampshades in his hotel room and was so startled by the effect that when he got home he painted everything in his flat in neon colours - including some of the fabrics for this collection.

The vibrant cashmeres with which Williamson made his name were still there, in jewelcoloured vests with vents up the front. But he has evolved from fragile-looking clothes to rugged hessians layered over luminous silks and trimmed with velvets and beads to make skirts that bridged the divide between evening and day wear beautifully.

Evening wear is something that British designers do well. At Paul Smith embroidered silk skirts and drop-waisted dresses were as pretty as the Cecil Beaton portraits of the Twenties "It girl" Daisy Fellowes, which presumably inspired them. Clements Ribeiro's textured velvet chiffon skirts were immensely desirable. And at Elspeth Gibson there was a winter version of the peasant top in velver. Just add a pair of her lichen trousers and you have the casualdressy approach to evenings

However, there is another evening dress code emerging, first sighted seasons ago at Yamamoto: the fully blown ball skirt. Ghost had vaguely Victorian ones, reinforced by the lace-up boots that were teamed with everything. Ben de Lisi's came in grey with a cowl-neck top; Deborah Milner's were in silver-matted orange wool. Milner, who has carved a name for herself with made-to-measure wedding dresses for various fashionistas, showed on the catwalk for the first time, with mixed results. This smacked of a graduate show with too many ideas designed to impress and not

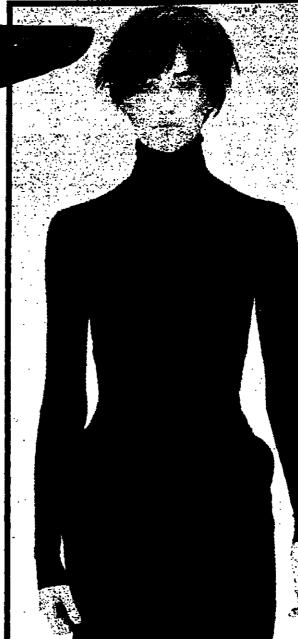
enough of the gorgeous clothes that she can do. Someone who ject volume into fashion's previhas mastered the art of combining technical wizardry with beautiful clothes is Hussein Chalayan. Last week's collection was a stunning display of how inordinately complicated ideas can be wrought into se-

ets, poncho dresses - against a swirling, snowy background complete with howling wolves. Spookily, Julien Macdonald opted for a snowcape, too, but while McQueen's was hauntingly apocalyptic, Macdon-ald's was kitsch. Owen Gaster's version was just cold, though he did come up trumps with a real wolf. That's the thing about London: you wait for years for a wolf, then three GUARANTEED

come along at the same time. FASHION By Lists =

pouch, which could also dou-ble as a night-time accessory since the dinky, decorative beaded bags we have all been wearing are going to look odd with the new, sportier evening wear looks that are bound to slip into the shops.

into staying ahead of the fashion pack. The energy required to maintain her biceps pales beside that expended on acquiring those £10,000 embroidered lilac Gucci tronsers she wore at the Grammys Outfit No 33 in the last show. Madonna ordered them three months ago. Not that money changed hands. As an insider says, once they









NEED THEM

sa hurry



renely simple-looking pieces. Out they floated, those perfect woollen shift dresses and boxy jackets with matching skirts. Although his presentation veers towards the pretentious. he doesn't feel the need to point out how dever he is with his clothes. The only flashy moments were the asymmetric millefeuille layered felt skirts. In less skilled hands they would have looked ugly, but

here they were ethereal.

ously slim silhouette. Alexander McQueen's puffball wool dresses were a different solution to the same problem. This was another moment that combined some of the best showmanship in the world with fabulous clothes - pin-sharp frock coats, curvy quilted jack-

Designers are looking to in-LUGGING half of London's press-release output around this week. I've also had plenty of cause to ponder that great imponderable: why is it impossible to find a bag that is ust the right size?

the flat pouch that is set to be-

come the bag of the season ... or so I thought. After re-search on the accessories

stands in the exhibition part

of London Fashion Week. I

feel a solution in the offing. J

and M Davidson's flat, shag-

gy ponyskin pouch, with a

strap that slings across the

body, is big enough for the

bare essentials - wallet, keys, phone and lipstick, making

them more accessible — while

their not-too-big leather, ny-

ion or tweed holdail will car-

ry the overflow. Both are

quirky, chic and practical -

but not cheap. Dollargrand

and Accessorize will have

budget versions by autumn.

You can take both these

shapes to the office and nip

out to lunch with just the

They're either too small or so big that you end up lug-ATTIKS FYOTIVE ging around a laptop, a mo-bile and three changes of clothing to stop the thing imploding. And the problem will intensify next winter with

OK, so you will need two bags
— but then, life isn't perfect.

■ IT'S endearing to observe the effort that Madonna puts hit the shops she won't want

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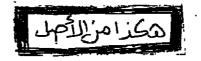


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COMEDY: Goodness Gracious Me is attracting a mainstream audience



COMEDY

THE TIMES



month, scores one greatest hit

In a glum week for news on

the race front, it was also en-

ieev Bhaskar performed an ac-

complished solo show at the South Bank just after Christ-

mainstream talents too.

Bhaskar and Meera Syal

have attracted most of the criti-

cal attention so far, partly for

the very good reason that they

contribute their own material.

But this evening was very

much a collective success. Kulvinder Ghir's clowning is put

to superb use, particularly in a

parody of an all-action, all-

dancing movie hero. Nina Wa-

ation that has come of age.

after another.



Imbecile firmly charge

n recent years the tiny Gate has accomplished so much - from rediscovering Spanish plays of the Golden Age to introducing us to the German dramatist Marie-Luise Fleisser to giving spare, simple productions of Kenneth McLeish's stunningly bold translations of Euripides - that it has every reason to make a fuss of itself.

It may, if it likes, celebrate its 20th birthday with a season called idiots, "devoted to the sensibly challenged". It may even declare in its publicity burnf that "imbeciles are very firmly in charge at the Gate". We know it is the theatre's jokily disingenuous way of preparing us for Cervantes's Don Quixote and the satirical East European plays that will fol-

Or do we, and is it? If the Don in his most mentally addled mood had personally directed David Johnston's adaptation of his biography, he could not have produced anything more inept and incoher-ent. Somehow the long firstnight interval summed up an event I was already categorising as good reason to get a few millennia off my time in Purgatory. True, it broke up an evening that lasted over three hours - but was it really necessary to send the wretched audience out of the auditorium to loiter in the cramped foyer. booze in the depressing pub below, or simply wander the cold Notting Hill streets?

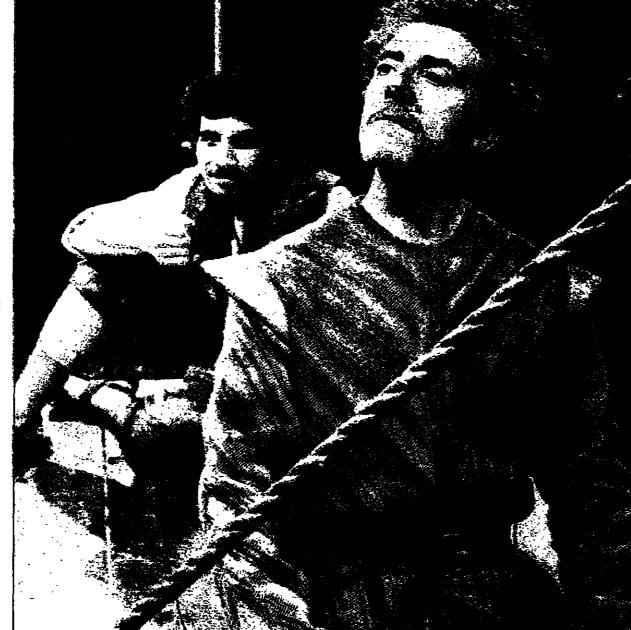
When we returned to our seats, someone had shifted the sawdust on the stage floor. But the set, a drear blend of scaffolding and rope fashionably placed between two rows of spectators, seemed unchanged. The actors were still mooching about in their ugly village clothes or slumping just offstage. Part Two was much the same as Part One, only duller.

There are, of course, many hilarious incidents in the origiare included in Marta Momblant Ribas's production. Patrick Kealey's monotonously grave and earnest Quixote mistakes a barber's basin for the magic helmet of Mambrino and snatches it from its stupefied owner. He confuses inns with castles, rips apart pup-pets who have offended his sense of chivalry, rescues a shepherd's boy from a de-served beating. Whether he tilts at windmills I cannot be sure, for the moment passed in a twinkling during which latecomers were distracting me. But little else is particularly lucid and nothing else is funny. so it hardly matters.

Nor is pace or clarity helped

by the introduction of a narrator-guru in the form of Cide Hamete Benengali, whom Cervantes pretended was his story's inventor, and two female listener-commentators, both in modern togs and one with a half-penetrable accent. He gives them plonkingly obvious lectures about imagination, reality, reason and the other subjects the adapter wishes us to ponder — "nothing is what it seems, have you forgotten that already, my little budgeri-gars?" - while they do little but take up space and time. Mehmet Ergen's earthily good-natured Sancho Panza emerges with some credit from the deconstructionist banalities on offer, but otherwise imbecility is the mot juste.

> BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE | hemians.



Mehmet Ergen and Patrick Kealey in the Gate's incoherent adaptation of the classic Cervantes tale of Don Quixote

PUCCINI'S early master-piece is now more than 100 years old but remains as miraculously fresh as its subjectmatter. Young love, youthful ideals and shattered dreams motivate the plot, and not many productions capture this spirit as well as Goran Järvefelt's 15-year-old staging

for Weish National Opera.

As revived here by Caroline Chaney, the production mixes humour and pathos in the same way as Puccini's score. Updating the action by a few decades to the time of the opera's composition, it remains realistic and traditional - but never conventional. Above all, it is a staging that "listens" to the music, recognising that Puccini never sentimentalises the hard existence of these Bo-

Fresh and juicy

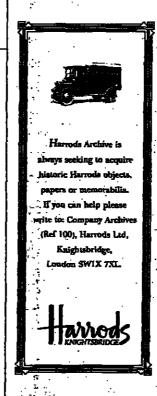
By the final act, the poverty is inescapable. The Bohemians' garret looks (in Michael Yeargan's designs) like a squat. Marcello has had to compromise his ideals and is busy producing a still life that will be easy to sell. In these surroundings it is not surpris-ing that Mimi's death seems even more painful than usual. It helps that all the princi-

pals are young: this is not the strongest cast WNO has ever fielded in La Boheme, but they are an evenly matched group of singing actors. It is less bein that on the opening they were often swamped by the orchestra un-der Graham Jackson. After a slightly scrappy start, Jackson settled down to conduct a performance full of theatrical life. but overdid the juice in what

is already a very juicy score. Alwyn Mellor gives per-haps the most fully rounded performance, singing with glowing tone and charting Mimi's decline poignantly. The Bohemians make a lively

quartet, but Gwyn Hughes Jones's Rodolfo stands out for his sweetly lyrical tone. Simon Thorpe's Marcello is more occoly characterised, an overgrown naughty boy, at the start who is perhaps most af-feeled by events, and be boasts a warm baritone. Dean Robinson's Colline and Matthew Hargreaves's Schaunard are not overshadowed. however, and the latter sings the best Italian. Gail Pearson's perky Musetta is dynamite in a small package, and her slender soprano rides the ensembles brightly.

JOHN ALLISON

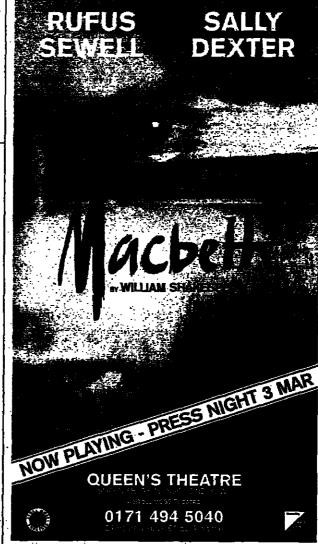


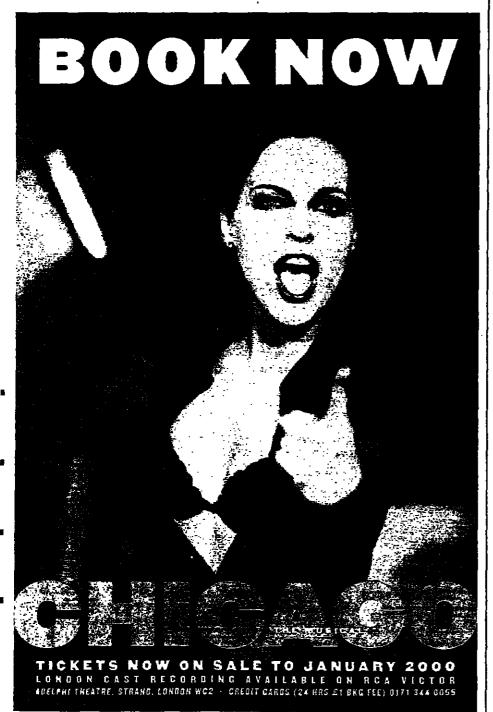
to the theatre. Clive Davis reports comes in for much more of a I here had been mutter-ings that the level of in-spiration was starting hiding. Gurus are treated with jovial disrespect, and we are in-troduced to a new chain of resto wobble by the end of the second television series of Goodness Gracious Me. So it is retaurants, Pianet Bollywood. that seats its customers according to skin tone. freshing to report that the stage version, which is on tour until the middle of next

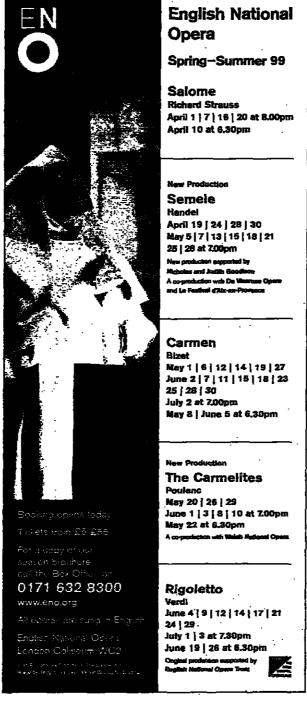
Some of the skits looked un derpowered on a stage as large as the Hexagon's Anil Gupta's direction would benefit from a little tightening. But we do have the opportunity to couraging to see not just a full house but a decidedly mixed crowd. When GGM star Sanrelive the English restaurant sketch, an instant classic which depicts a table full of Bombay rowdies bullying a timid Caucasian waiter: "Whar's the blandest dish on mas, he played to an audience that was 99 per cent Asian. Here at the Reading Hexagon was proof, if it were needed, that he and his colleagues are your menu?"

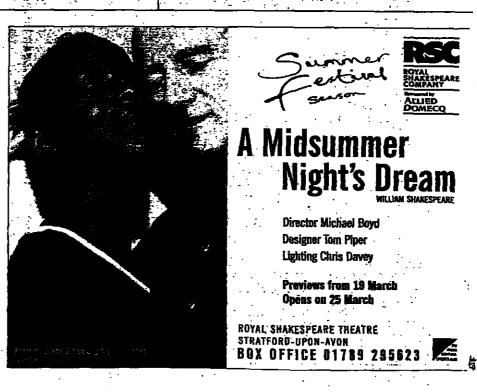
Craig Charles's role in an-other officeat BBC2 series, Red Dwarf, forms one of the selling points for his national tour. Not that there were many touches of the surreal in his performance at Oxford Brookes University - apart from the bizarre sight of him lowering his trousers to display a chic set of stockings and cised spell in prison supplies the meatiest sequence in his routine. For all the cheeky Scouse swagger he brings to his tales from a darkened cell, there is no mistaking the fear and loathing underneath.

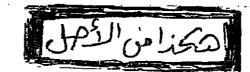
dia makes a convincing transi-tion from miniskirted Asian "legirl" to the indomitable Mrs Bedi, a matriarch who is never The rest, though, tends to fall into a predictable run caught without an aubergine in her handbag. The whole en-terprise fizzes with the self-conthrough off-colour toilet and sex jokes. Even an account of a fidence of a Westernised genertrip to Bill Gates's empire turns into an excuse to linger British paternalism receives in the aeroplane's WC. A pity ritual poke in the eye in Toby At his best, when he allows his stream-of-consciousness indig-Longworth's cameo performances as a nostalgic colonial nation to bubble over into a gent and a dim-witted backpoem. Charles conveys a real sense of individuality. packer. Bur Asian insularity











Good guys don't win prizes tight for

CINEMA: Jeff Bridges may be

Hollywood's most underrated star

but it has never bothered him. as Lesley O'Toole discovered

ear and paranoia are themes which permeate Jeff Bridges's films, and his new one - Arlington Road, opening in Britain this month — is no exception. A psychological thriller about neighbours who are not all they seem, it is precisely the kind of movie Bridges likes to see. "I love it when the filmmaker is ahead of the viewer and there are so many twists that you don't know how something will turn out."

That, more than the role, proved the attraction here. That and his co-star, Tim Robbins, who, as the first star name attached to the project. had his pick of two equally in-teresting male lead roles. Bridges did not mind that whatever Robbins left was his own role. "Sometimes it's the

other way round," he adds.
Bridges was also attracted
by the film's "Hitchcockian feel" rather than its political subject-matter (American-based terrorism and its white militia perpetrators). "For me, the film is a fantasy on that level, though in Britain down that things must be very different. You have movie star grown up with terrorism but even afpath? ter something like the Oklahoma

bombing, Ameri-cans still don't give the topic much credence. We prefer to live in a state of denial because we really don't want to think about these things."

Yet Bridges knows only too well that his on-screen paranoia in Arlington Road is both plausible and rooted in fact. On the film's set in Houston, Texas, last year, Bridges met many extras who had family and friends affiliated with white militia groups and he believes that a societal malaise persists in the country in spite of its buoyant economy. "I don't know that the state of the economy is entirely satisfying to everyone. Jobs are so lowpaying that families still can't afford roofs over their head or the health cover they need."

luxury of being able to pick and choose his work. Clearly, his motivation is neither financial nor careerist. At 50, he is not only more handsome and versatile than Harrison Ford but seven years younger. Yet he has eschewed the conventional leading-man roles which could have placed him in the \$20-million-per-movie pantheon. Asked which specific hits he passed on, Bridges responds with a slightly be-mused: "I'm really not sure which films people mean when they say that, but I don't think I ever went down that movie star path. I always enjoy taking a 90-degree turn

OPERA & BALLET

Bridges "may be the most natural and least self-conscious screen actor that ever lived". He has his own thoughts on the reasons he is able to imbue every character with credibility. "Audiences bring information into the theatre about what they last saw an actor in. Because I've done so many different roles, it's easier for me to project a character on to the actor so when people see me on screen, they think, 'Maybe

he's the bad guy, maybe not." Though he enjoyed making Arlington Road, Bridges's experience was tinged with sad-ness when his father Lloyd Bridges died during the shoot For years, Bridges doubted his merit as an actor, well aware of having a "foot in the door because my Dad was who he was". Though he made his film debut at the age of nine months - "I didn't do a very

good job, they couldn't get me to I don't cry" - it was not until he had made think I ies as an adult that he decided acting was what he want ever went ed to focus on. His inauspi-cious film debut op-

posite Jane Greer was followed by a few parts on his father's television series. Sea Hunt. "He'd always say. 'Do you want to do

this part? You'll be gone from school for a couple of weeks." And when you're eight years old, it's kind of fun." A little further on, he gues-

tioned whether he was acting simply because his father did but eventually realised that "they wouldn't hire me if I was no good. After that, the feeling started to go away."

Two Academy Award nominations by the age of 25 helped At 22, he was nominated as Best Supporting Actor for his endearing guy-nextdoor in Peter Bogdanovich's The Last Picture Show and three years later for Thunder bolt and Lightfoot. In the 1980s. Bridges enjoyed a spectacular run, winning Best Actor for his alien masquerading box-office success again the same year in Against All Odds, though the success of that film paled next to that of Jagged Edge.

ut his early populari-ty with Academy members did not convert into the recognition he should have earned for a clutch of 1990s films — The Fisher King, Fearless and the low-budget American Heart, which he also produced, Janet Maslin, The New York Times film critic, calls him "the most underappreciated great actor of his generation", though she was not thinking of The Mirror Has The American film critic Two Faces, starring and direct-Pauline Kael once wrote that ed by Barbra Streisand and

THEATRES



mused suitor.

Unsurprisingly, given his huge resumé. Bridges cannot name a favourite film. "I have a bit of fondness for all of them. Sometimes I feel the end result, the movie, is almost a by-product of the real process. which is just being alive, finding out about yourself and your character and having relationships with the people you're working with." Bridges documents each filming experience by photographing it extensively. Polygram bought "thousands" of his photos taken on the set of Arlington Road and printed a

limited edition of 5,000 promo-

tional books, with handwrit-

ten captions by Bridges. If any-

one mounts an awards cam-

will make an excellent gift for the Golden Globe voters. (Oscar voters are not allowed to receive such promotional items.) In fact, Bridges is so long

overdue some awards that he

probably fancied his chances when those Academy favourites, the Coen brothers, wrote a part for him in The Big Lebowski, their follow-up to Fargo. The film, though, generated none of the generation-tran-

scending buzz of its predeces-sor. Was he surprised? "I was because it made me laugh and, for me, John Turturro's performance is unbelievable. But then I'm constantly surprised that I'm still surprised in this business. I admire the Coen brothers so much because they're so not

hoopla. They're totally lowkey." So too is the very affable Bridges, who lives a singularly normal-sounding life in an idyllic beach town north of Los Angeles with his wife and three teenage daughters.

is life outside work consists mostly of "music ceramics". Not only is he not worried about his own neighbours; he makes music with them. He also plays guitar and piano for the ensemble's "jazzy stuff with some rock and some pop". When feeling in need of creative stimulus, he tackles a 12-week course prescribed by the book The Artist's Way. "Each day, the first thing you

wnie uuee pa stream of consciousness. Mine normally starts off with something like 'I really, really, really don't feel like doing this'. You empty all this stuff out and then, all of a sudden, oth-

er things just come out."

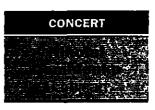
Bridges emptied another load of "stuff" on his daughters before signing on for The Big Lebowski. "I was so conflicted because I was thinking, 'I'm going to play this dope-smoking guy. What about my girls? What kind of role model is that?" He sat them down and gave them a long speech. "I was sweating. Finally, I ran out of words and they just looked at me and said, 'Dad, it's a movie'."

Arlington Road is released in Britain on March 19

comfort

B eethoven is really rather early music for Nikolai Demidenko. The Russian pianist, who has collected awards for his recordings of Mediner, Tchaikovsky and Scriabin, was likely to have very much his own way with Beethoven. And so it was when his Pathétique and Tem-pest Sonatas exploded on the Barbican Hall on Tuesday. At the start of the Pathé-

tique, the energy which is coiled into those severe opening chords, ready to break out in the impulsive rising figures which follow, seemed in Demi-Where Beethoven's strength and imagination seems con-stantly to be expanding, break-ing its own bounds, Demi-denko's seemed to be compressing itself, rigorously scaling down. This generated its own idiosyncratic excitement. The outer movements fairly crackled with nervous tension,



setting into relief a central slow movement so thoughtful-ly phrased that its song was heard breathing anew. And there was to be no relaxation of tension. Demidenko's tall frame remained crouched over the keyboard, taut with anticipation.

For Beethoven's Tempest Sonata, he found a compellingly hushed and exploratory opening. As the fingers touched each rising note into being, it seemed as if anything could happen. And each time those quiet, self-communing phrases returned out of the hurlyburly, they grew more isolated, until finally they were conjured into song, as if from an-

other, far distant frequency.

There was a palpable sense of physical relief as Demidenko turned to Lizzt and was able to spread himself once more, stretching every sinew of his body and that of the piano itself

The young Liszt certainly in-tended to test both performer and instrument in the Etudes d'execution transcendante d'après Paganini. Demidenko played two of them: La chasse. rhythmic control, and La Campanella, in which he seemed to have not quite enough freedom to tease out the whimsy.

There was not much of a smile on his face, either, in the two operatic transcriptions which framed the Etudes and his powerfully shaped Ballade No 2 in B minor. The Waltz and Capriccio on two themes from "Lucia et Parisina" was nicely deadpan in its virtuosity. But Lisza's paraphrase de concert on Rigoletto was, after all, quite the most outrageously successful PR package for Verdi's opera before Jonathan Miller's juke-box and Demidenko's frenzied performance made it just a little less fun.

HILARY FINCH





Alanis Morissette flags her July UK tour with a surprise date at Shepherds Bush GIG: Tonight REVIEW: Wednesday



■ MUSIC

Master violinist Gidon Kremer plays Piazzolla's steamy tangos at the QEH CONCERT: Tomorrow REVIEW: Thursday



■ THEATRE

At the Queens Rufus Sewell plays the Thane in Shakespeare's Scottish Play OPENS: Wednesday **REVIEW: Friday**



■ FILM

Talk show queen-turned-film star Oprah Winfrey feels haunted in Beloved RELEASED: Friday **REVIEW: Thursday**

PLUS: The Royal Ballet's Dance Bites opens in Bath and Darlington tonight

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Blair books his ticket to euroland

A danger to the Tories as the

odds shorten on entry

othing is inevitable in politics. But there are probabilities — and British entry into the euro is now probable. Tony Blair has made entry a strategic aim of his Government. For all the careful wording of his Commons statement, he cast aside previous ambiguities that allowed some sceptic commentators to delude themselves that he was really on their side. The Government will now actively seek to achieve entry. Of course, like any shrewd politician, Mr Blair left himself a let-out clause by stressing the economic tests.

However, failure to join in the next Parliament would be a huge setback for his strategy of closer involvement in the European Union, and would force a reassessment of his whole foreign policy. This is leaving aside the possibility of defeat in a referendum. which could be fatal to his premiership, but he would not call one unless he was sure of

winning.
The latest MORI poll for The Times indicates that opinion has become less hostile to entry. The precise figures showing an even balance for and against might differ with a slightly altered question, but the trend is clear and is backed by other recent polls. More significant is that half the public is persuadable either way, depending on what it thinks would be best for the

economy. So much for the myth of a firmly sceptic electorate. Moreover, over two thirds of the public regards entry as likely-inevitable.

A sizeable minority of the public, now about a quarter, is

strongly opposed to participa-That is, in effect, the position of the Tory leadership and

is William Hague's instinct ("a nation that has decided its own destiny for 1,000 years"), rather than just ruling out entry for the next absolute position may also be limiting the Tory potential for recovery. A recent MORI poll commissioned by John Stevens and Brendan Donnelly, the former Tory MEPs and founders of the new Pro-European Conservative Party, showed that a pro group led by Michael Heseltine and Kenneth Clarke might not only attract 13 per cent support (against 19 per cent for Mr Hague's party) but it could also win back Tory defectors

Democrats. Stevens-Donnelly group may be no more than spoilers in this June's European elections, but their activity shows that Mr Hague cannot assume that a majority will rally to a "save the pound" call. That may be true of a hard core, but any referendum will be decided by the much larger number whose vote will be swayed by their economic

from Labour and the Liberal

The Government's case is that Britain would be left behind outside the euro with people worse off and investment at risk. Joining will be presented as a logical step rather than a big leap. That means showing that the euro is successful and that Britain would fit into euroland.

Serious tensions do exist, as shown by the squabbling between finance ministers and the European Central Bank, and by the failure at Friday's summit to make progress over reform of the budget and farm policies. Mr Blair has to be able to show that Europe is reforming itself and that its labour, capital and product markets are becoming more

However, arguments over the proposed levy on art sales and the threat to the Eurobond market from a withholding rax make the EU appear less attractive, and Mr Blair also has to show that further moves towards closer integration and qualified majority voting are not against British interests.

The New Europe group launched today by David The New Europe Owen, with mainstream-cenrist backing, is fighting on this ground with its anti-mone-tary union but pro-European line, a socially acceptable scep-ticism that is not right-wing. But how does it avoid the embrace of the ultras?

Mr Clarke and Mr Heseltine are now happy to work in an all-party campaign with Mr Blair. Will Lord Owen's group be content to sit with Bill Cash and his allies?

The Owen approach is more fundamentally flawed. Despite legitimate doubts over monetary union, the group still believes that Britain can

pick and choose which bits of the EU it wants to join with no adverse Britain cannot really have a central role in the EU if it is outside monetary union for long. Other countries, and many in the City and big busi-ness accept, albeit reluctantly, that

Britain cannot join for three or four But any longer and Britain will suffer a loss of business and investment. Moreover, the policies adopt-

direct impact on Britain, and we will have no influence on them outside the euro. Many Tories are content to accept such a detached position, and want Britain to renegotiate its relationship with the EU anyway. The Owen group wants Britain to be part of Europe, yet, as Mr Blair has come to recognise, that is not consistent with being outside a successful single currency.

¬ he debate will turn on these questions of eco-nomic advantage. The Tories are in danger of being seen not just as split, as they may be in the Euro elections. but also as detached from most of mainstream business. As Mr Blair remarked last Tuesday, there could even be "the delicious irony of going into the next general election with the only fears on the financial markets being the prospect of a Tory election

There is still a big task of persuasion, and winning a referendum will not be easy, especially if the Tories recover strongly at the next election. But by at last taking a lead. Mr Blair has started to shift the odds in favour of entry.

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We haven't a prayer

y grandson Wilfrid, who is four years old, was getting annoyed with his mother, in the angry voice little boys use, he said: "I want you out of my language." That was how I felt when I read the text of the millennium "prayer"; it has so annoyed the Archbishops of Canterbury and Westminster that they are thinking of boycotting the Dome on millennium night. They will, in any case, be much better off with their own congregations, in their own cathedrals, praying to their God. The Dome has no faith, though it

smells faintly of neo-paganism.
The prayer, as quoted in the Daily Mail, reads: "Let there be respect for the Earth, peace for its people. love in our lives, delight in the good, forgiveness for past wrongs, and from now on a new start."

No mention of God; no mention of Christ. The churches are said to be spending £6 million sending a copy of this string of slogans, together with a free candle, to 18 million homes in Britain. Apart from the Dome itself, there can hardly be a greater waste of money. There are quite enough people in Britain aiready who speak in cliches almost all of the new Labour Party for a start — without spending £6 million on dumbing down our language still further.

My first reaction to the millennium prayer was to compare it with genuine prayers, with the Lord's Prayer, psalms, with the prayers of great religions. It does, indeed, borrow some religious language. "Let there be" comes from the first chapter of the Book of Genesis. "And God said, 'let there be light': and there was light." "Respect" is a word used in the Mafia to describe the deference appropriate to the leader of a criminal organisation. "Respect for the Earth" is a green

'Peace for its people" is quite close "peace in our time", which Neville Chamberlain, on his return from Munich, borrowed from the Book of Common Prayer. "People" is, of course, a new Labour word, as in "People's Princess". "Love in our lives" occupies an intermediate position between a religious statement and the lyric of an old-fashioned popular song; it could well be the last line of one of those mawkish modern hymns written for children.

"Delight in the good" is a mysterious, even ambiguous, phrase. Are we being advised to delight in good things, as a wine

From the millennium prayer to government by cliché and the dumbing of ITV, we are in the grip of dunces

Château-Lafite, or a silver connoisseur might admire a Paul Storr saltcellar? Or are we simply supposed to delight in doing good, which often involves labour and self-sacrifice? Isaac Watts thought that all creatures delighted in the natural appetites God had given them. "Let dogs delight to bark and bite, For God hath made them so: Let bears and lions growl and fight, Entitle them. For 'tis there nature too."

"Forgiveness for past wrongs" mixes one of the petitions of the

Lord's Prayer with the modern habit of apologising for historic evils, such as the slave trade or the potato famine. My own Irish ancestors were on the potato famine, so I regularly apologise to them on behalf of my English ancestors. Finally, one comes to "and from now on a new which sounds like a new

Labour slogan for the next general The whole thing is not a prayer at comes on at a late hour, and has all. As the Daily Mail reports: been encouraged to follow the carefully composed to the state of the state carefully composed so that it could be used by Christians, those of other faiths and those of no faith at all." It

is a political statement, designed to persuade people of differing views that they are in agreement when they are not. I do not know whether it is more offensive for its stylistic clumsiness, for the meretricious use of fragments of real prayers, or for the mind-numbing combination of vacuity of meaning with intellectual dishonesty.

The Dome has become the grand national symbol of the process of dumbing down. It is splendid news that the Jubilee Line may not be finished, so the best way to get there on the night may be to abandon one's car in Greenwich and jog through a disused container port. That sounds an ideal way to celebrate the start of the new millennium.

In Inspector Clouseau's accent,

"dome", "dump", "damp", and "dumb" all sound very much the same. The Prime Minister has told the Queen she must spend millennium night in a dumb dome, or perhaps in a damp dump. That will make her the new People's Queen, and help him to remain the new People's Prime Minister.

Another, and more than symbolic, dumbing-down has been the wanton destruction of independent television. I hope it will be discussed at the conference on dumbing-down which The Times

Supple-Literary ment is mounting next Friday. For 30 years, ITV produced some of the best television in Britain, constantly challengpassing the BBC. It has already been reduced to a shadow of what it once was. One can read the ITV programme on most nights without seeing anything that raises a flicker of interest or pleas-

ure. Even the great

I am not criticising ITV for excessive emphasis on popular entertainment — would that I could - but for the oceanic boredom of its schedules. From 8pm to 9pm this evening, a peak viewing hour, ITV will be showing 30 minutes of surveillance footage, taken by HM Customs, followed by a half hour of home improvements on the Wirral Of course, there is always Corona-tion Street: "Maxine struggles to cope at the salon in the absence of Audrey, while Gary and Judy decide on godparents for the twins." There is gritty socialism for you. However, there has always been the compensation of News at Ten, topical, well-presented, well-edited, the most professional of the network news services. For more than 40 years that has remained an excellent news programme; in its first

years it forced the BBC to modernise

news broadcasting in the early 1960s, I remember ITN introducing the first televised Budget broadcast and the first live computer forecasts on the general election night pro-gramme. Alastair Burnet presented both of them; I had the good luck to be one of the talking heads. Now News at Ten is to go, despite the well-deserved popularity, and the seriousness, of Trevor McDonald. From dawn to dewy eve, ITV will be duliness, duliness, duliness.

The commercial companies are, in the their own commercial terms, destroying what used to be the strongest of network brands. Of course, as the ITV petwork vanishes down the plughole, it will still be possible to watch the Jerry Springer Show. Jerry Springer has a sinister rather than merely mindless vulgari-ty. News at Ten is dead, but Jerry

Springer lives. As with the dumb Dome, complete with its God-free spirit zone, Tony Blair's Government must share the blame for the destruction of the ITV tradition. Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, is also responsible for broadcasting. He appointed Gerry Robinson, the chairman of Granada, as the chairman of the Arts Council. Mr Robinson dumbed -down Granada, and has done his best to dumb down the Arts Council as well. Mr Smith continues to ooze sincerity and soundbites on television as the apostle of support for the

The Prime Minister has done more than anyone in British public life to substitute propaganda images for political debate. From the start of his leadership, he spoke in soundbites for the soundbites came. He uses political language to sentimen-talise and dissolve the real issues of policy, not to define them. It is rather the same as a conjurer using patter to distract his audience from what he is actually doing. No doubt this is a worldwide fashion. President Clinton himself abuses lan-

guage as well as women. Alexander Pope described the triumph of unreason in the Dunciad. "Lo! Thy dread empire. Chaos, is restored; Light dies before thy uncreating word." Our national dialogue has been denatured; in religion, in politics, in social debate there has been a substitution of spin and image for language, truth and logic. I am extending Wilfrid's motto: "I want the dunces out of my language."

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HECOMMIC.

Tally low

LEAKY roofs at the National Trust, courtesy of the Prince of Wales's friends: the wrangle over the charity's ban on staghuming is heading for the courts again, and its coffers are emptying sharpish.

The trust, which has already spent more than £200,000 on legal

fees, is being pursued with renewed vigour by the Devon and Somerset Staghounds, whose supporters in-clude Hugh Van Cutsem, a pal of Prince Charles. Money for the case has to be diverted from conservation work.

My tip for a better use of funds: Hardwick Hall, the Duke of Devonshire's former ancestral seat -memorably described by Lord Torrington as "one of the proudest piles I ever beheld" — which is crumbling to dust in trust hands. Says a big welly: "They should put down their briefs and get back to

CRISPIAN MILLS, Sir John his route into rock star debauchery: "I grew up with pictures of my Mum [Hayley Mills, below, with clan] looking very young, standing with John Wayne or Walt Disney. That did something to my head.



■ AN archbishop has fallen out with his estate agent, and is worried about a lost £8 million. Alwyn Rice Jones, the Archbishop of Wales, had his unhappy brush with Maramon after flogging Church of Wales land for £27 million: shortly afterwards, the canny buyer sold it on for £35 million. Over to Knight Frank, the land's valuers, who tell me cautiously: "We understand the Church is still considering its position."

IS Rosie Boycott the new Parky? My close chum, the Editor-in-Chief of Express Newspapers, has told friends she wants to be a chat show host. Her hoped for outlet, Channel 5, is about as popular as her current home.

LAWYERS have been ruminating over the appointment of Mr Justice Lightman to hear the most recent BCCI case. In his more humble days as a QC, Lightman defended Abbas Gokal, one of the BCCI baddies. After Lord Hoffmann's Armesty troubles, this is sensitive stuff, but Cherie Booth, one of the defending lawyers, was happy: she spoke to Lightman about his record and was convinced of his impartiality.



AN illegitimate Dome has been born. The company building to the real thing is erecting a
50-metre high practice tent for the
circus types who will perform at
Greenwich.

■ NICK HORNBY turned to laddish novel-writing after his inky ambitions were thwarted. Hornby, a recent £2 million transfer to Penguin, was a listless graduate when he applied to the journalism course at City University. Cruelly rebuffed, he turned his hand to fiction. "We look for commitment, aptitude and personality," says Linda Christmas, City's current taskmistress. "Anyway, journalism is not about writing."

ROYAL cinematic preferences will be clear when the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visit Angels, the world's largest theatrical costumiers, on Thursday. While the Queen will peruse outfits from Elizabeth and Shakespeare in Love, Prince Philip has asked to see the Nazi uniforms from Saving

JASPER GERARD "

'Those Tsars, Tsarinas and party General Secretaries who are internationally considered the most impressive were often the maddest' 7 o watch the increasingly

frenzied race to be President of Russia, you would be forgiven for getting the impression that the job was somehow a desirable one, that you would not have to be seriously unstable to It seems that everyone who is

anyone, from film directors to food magnates, is enthusiastically denying any intention to run (seemingly the accepted way of announcing the beginning of your presidential campaign). To any outside observer, the

advantages of being President here would appear to be few. In fact, aside from the fact that the Moscow traffic is completely cleared from the roads to allow the smooth passage of your entourage, they are non-existent. No leader in the whole documented history of the country can be characterised either by their uniformly great achievements or

by their sanity. Those Tsars, Tsarinas and General Secretaries who are internationally considered the most impressive were often the maddest.

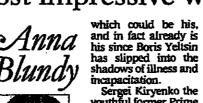
Aleksei Konstantinovich Tolstoy's 19th-century poem History of Russian Government is a satire documenting Russia's changes of leadership, and, though he recounts the literary triumphs of Catherine the Great's reign and the naval prowess of Peter the Great, the following refrain echoes throughout the poem: "Our country is and the three is still an order rich but there is still no order

Yet to this day there are plenty of people clamouring to create some. It seems that half the presidential pretenders do not themselves know why they seek power. Yevgeni Primakov genuinely had no desire to step in

and such is the mad-ness of Russian political life that he is one of the most popular contenders for President in 2000, although he still insists that he will

not be running. Vladimir Dovgan, however, a 36-year-old food and drink millionaire, has saturated the airwaves and billboards with adverts for his new Dovgan Party, even though he has failed to register even for December's

parliamentary elections. He says he may run for President in 2004. Nobody believes Primakov's claims of non-participation but I understandable. Primakov has said he wants to retire and do some fishing, which sounds good when persuaded to become when compared with the job of Prime Minister last September, when compared with the job of constant crisis management when compared with the job of



incapacitation. Sergei Kiryenko the youthful former Prime Minister, ousted after precipitating the financial crisis last August, has also hurled himself back into the fray with his bid for a

parliamentary seat centring on a series of heartwarming television advertise-ments which depict him building a toy town with his son.

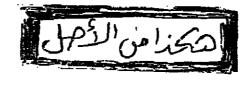
His party, Novaya Sila, runs under the slogan "do it yourself", though Kiryenko has hinted that he might, in fact, do it with Primakov in the presidential elections, should the Prime Minister finally decide to run. In a televised interview last Thursday night, Kiryenko attest-ed to his relative sanity and said that he hates politics. Although he could easily become a businessman or a consultant, it seems, nevertheless, that he just. cannot help himself. The film director Nikita

Mikhalkov, who has admitted the remote possibility of his running for President if asked, launched his campaign last week with the premiere of his new patriotic film The Barber of Siberia, described by some as "an advert for Russia". None of the world's many

"whither, Russia?" pontificaters really fancy Mikhalkov's political chances this time round. since Primakov is at least managing to maintain the distance and dignity required of a man not running for President, while strenuously consolidating his power hase. The other candidates, whose comment@the-times.co.uk

intentions are less of a secret, are hysterically rallying support. Governor Aleksandr Lebed, Afghan War veteran and currently top of the volatile presidential succession polls, is set to attend the eighth annual Night of 100 Stars Oscar viewing party at the Beverly Hills Hotel as part of his unlikely effort to appear more palatable to the West, and Yuri Luzhkov, the Mayor of Moscow, continues to dazzle Muscovites and visitors to the city with Moscow's new-look cleanliness and relative affluence.

People such as Grigori Yavlinsky, of Yabloko, can be virtually ruled out on grounds of sanity, whereas Gennadi Zyuganov, the leader of the Communists, well, you only have to take one look at him to see that this is a man who must really, really want to govern Russia.





THE COMMONS INTEREST

MPs should support radical reform of the Lords

The Royal Commission on Reform of the House of Lords will today hold its first official meeting. In nine months it must produce a blueprint for reform. Lord Wakeham's appointment to the commission in January was widely welcomed because of his reputation as an efficient and flexible chairman. It was assumed then that additional constitutional expertise would be offered by other members of his committee. Although the 12 people who will assemble this morning are distinguished figures, relatively few have specific knowledge of this area. This has fuelled fears, as we report in our pages today, that the commission might feel confident to recommend only the minimum changes.

A limited approach might restrict itself merely to the abolition of the 91 hereditary peers allowed for in the plan that cost Viscount Cranborne his job last year and the introduction of a similar number of elected or even indirectly elected individuals. The bulk of the new body would be nominated. The powers of the Lords might be reduced to offset the new authority that even a slightly more democratic chamber could hold. This would be a grave mistake, producing an Upper House neither sufficiently elected to make its weight effective, nor sufficiently empowered to play the proper role of a second chamber. That would not correct the imbalances between executive and legislature that are at the core of Britain's constitutional difficulties.

There is, however, a powerful lobby in favour of such a flawed solution. It consists almost exclusively of long-serving members of the House of Commons. This cross-party contingent shares the sentiment that any truly credible second chamber would inevitably eclipse the standing of the Lower House. The larger the elected element, it is feared, the more intense is that threat. Lord Wakeham and Gerald Kaufman, the senior Labour Party appointee on the commission, might conclude that the reform which will be most widely welcomed in Parliament, thus

ensuring a swift passage into law, is one that closely reflects the wishes of such MPs. This would be a major miscalculation of Parliament's best interests. It is not the case that a strengthened House of Lords must automatically lead to a commensurate reduction in the status of the Commons: Throughout this century the formal and informal powers of the Lords have remorselessly declined. This has not made the Commons an ever more mighty force: The opposite is true. The main beneficiaries of a weak second chamber have been ministers and party managers. They, and not the House of Commons, would again be the victors if the Royal Commission

structure of the Upper House. Britain needs both Houses of Parliament to become more vigorous institutions. This alone will allow for rigorous scrutiny of the executive, a searchlight that, by exposing defective policy early, is ultimately in the interests of the Government as well. Serious reform of the House of Lords can be the catalyst for a long overdue modernisation of the House of Commons. Indeed, it may be the only event that emboldens backbenchers on all sides to demand new rights. The Conservative Party has spoken of late of its desire to restore the prestige of Parliament. It can advance that cause through Lords reform.

backs only marginal alterations to the

If the Tories are to have influence, they must act quickly. The committee led by Lord Mackay of Clashfern will shortly produce a set of options which the Shadow Cabinet will then consider. The Conservatives require a single, distinctive and radical proposal. This should lead them towards a reformed House of Lords that is half-elected and half-nominated. The elected section should contain members serving for lengthy, nonrenewable, terms to ensure their independence. Such a programme would put pressure on the Labour Party to endorse an equally imaginative scheme. It would also be an invaluable contribution to this most important debate.

GOOD EUROPEANS AGAINST EMU

A powerful, coherent non-partisan case for staying out

The Commons exchanges that followed Tony Blair's presentation of the National Changeover Plan last week revealed more about the political hand that the Prime Minister intends to play over the next two vears than it did about the "objective" economic tests which the Government says will determine its position on EMU. Against reasoned, principled argument, his trump will be that those who oppose giving up sterling for the euro have a hidden agenda which is viscerally anti-European. Voters, he will suggest, have more sense than to align themselves with vesterday's men, old Tory dogs vapping at the heels of history's caravan. He will present the pro-EMU case as part of Labour's modernising agenda, a logical strategy for increasing Britain's international influence as well as its prosperity.

in response to this New Europe, the group that David Owen launches today to put the case against joining, offers a direct and powerfully argued riposte from a distinctively European standpoint. Lord Owen has long championed the European Union; so have the politicians, economists and business leaders around him. This is a non-partisan group of former Cabinet 1 .nisters from Left and Right. Lord Prior as well as Lord Healey, of businessmen and economists who have advised this Government as well as the last. It has resources, trustworthy leadership, and a simple, coherent message.

The heart of New Europe's case is that opposition to joining EMU is entirely consistent with a positive British role in the EU. That role should be to promote an outward-looking, dynamic Union, close to the governed and politically as well as economically flexible. Not only is staying out consistent with this vision; it would actually fit better with a modern European vision than the fatalistic notion that just because the euro exists. Britain must join. That is because EMU is not only untested, but inherently flawed. A single interest rate cannot, by definition, take account of ional conditions. Rather than guaranteeing stability, growth and high employment, EMU could thus aggravate the rigidities that have inflicted stagnation and dole queues on much of the EU. For

Britain, EMU would be a straitjacket. Politically. EMU implies a federal Europe. A British decision to join would be. as the group points out, "a decisive step towards turning Britain into a mere province of Europe, with a consequent loss not only of independence but of democratic accountability". Outside, Britain retains the advantages of language, light regulation and flexible markets - and in sterling. a currency that would be more stable than the euro against the dollar. For these and other reasons that New Europe identifies, joining "in the foreseeable future" would actually make it harder, not easier, "to achieve the new Europe that we want to see", united, co-operative but not federal.

New Europe speaks to those, probably a majority of the electorate, who know that Britain's destiny lies within the EU but who have deep doubts about the political as well as economic wisdom of taking this irrevocable step. It provides an intellectual home for people of all parties and none. While working with groups such as Business for Sterling, it sees the need to stay well clear of other. Europhobic campaigns against EMU. This is a serious case, argued by serious people. It offers what Britain needs, a proper debate.

TAKE THE HIGH ROAD

The Princess Royal should make Holyroodhouse her home

In 1822. George IV made the first visit to Scotland by a ruling monarch since the to30s. His visit caused a furore. Few Scots had seen their King before. And there he was before their eyes, dressed in a kilt, a germent that had been banned after the Applies rebellion. The magic of such a royal progress captivated the public and. 177 years later, faced with the prospect of separatist, centrifugal forces unleashed by devolution, royal advisers are now dreaming up similar plans to bolster the Union. Court sources have been quick to dismiss reports that part of their "Scottish initiative" could include making the Palace of Holyroodhouse the Princess Royal's "official residence". They should think again. Such an act could not be more apposite. George IV would have approved.

Given her close links with Scotland, the Princess Royal has excellent credentials to become a Princess Regent in Edinburgh. She has made more appearances north of the border than any other member of the Royal Family. Her son has played for Scotland in international rugby and she is herself patron of that vital institution, the Scottish Rugby Union.

Even so, the Princess would be forgiven fol viewing the idea with trepidation. She might well be given a frosty reception by

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some, especially members of the Scottish National Party. Its official policy is to retain the Queen as head of state when she is resident in Scotland, with the Speaker of the new parliament fulfilling the role in her absence. Yet according to a 1998 opinion poll, nearly half the SNP's candidates for the parliament would vote to abolish the monarchy. Their republicanism makes a

royal presence even more important. Holyroodhouse lies just a few hundred yards from the Scottish parliament. For the Princess to become a neighbour to politicians charting Scotland's future might be criticised as mere symbolism, but symbolism can be a powerful riposte to the

lures of separatism. A royal resident would remind Scots of the shared values that, even with devolution, bind the United Kingdom, Leaving the palace empty, bar the few weeks each year when the Queen makes it her home. could be cited by the SNP as evidence of an absent, uncaring monarchy, for whom Scotland is little more than a place for holidays. The Royal Family has a crucial. cohesive role to play in tempering Scottish separatism. The pageantry of monarchy might seem out of step with the modernism of new Labour, but it serves as a buckle for the Union and an emblem of continuity.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

peace negotiators

From Professor Emeritus Adrian Hastings

Sir, While they prepare for the recommencement of the talks on Kosovo in two weeks time, I suggest that the leaders of Nato ponder four

First, that the war cannot stop without actual Nato intervention. If it does not stop now, it will go on and on, with ever greater destruction and massacre on the Bosnian model. Nato's reputation will be in shreds and its threats will no longer carry the slightest weight.

Second, that the Kosovan claim to independence is very reasonable and its eventual achievement next to inevitable. Everything now happening, and that has happened since 1989, hakes it almost unthinkable that they should agree to remain yoked to Serbia. To close the road to future independence by not allowing for a referendum, even in five years' time. is as gravely undernocratic as it would be in the case of Scotland.

Third, that, paradoxical as it may seem, the only way to save the sur-viving Serb minority from extinction is to ensure Kosovan self-government now, with firm minority safeguards. The longer the war continues, the more certain it is that the Serb community will be so antagonised towards its Albanian neighbours that it will not survive.

Fourth, that Milosevic does not care in the least what happens to the Serb minority, any more than he cared about the fate of the Serbs of Krajina. What he cares about is that he stays in power in Belgrade.

ADRIAN HASTINGS, 3 Hollin Hill House, 219 Oakwood Lane, Leeds LS8 2PE. February 26.

'Unsafe' IRA conviction

From Mr Robert Rhodes. QC

Sir, His Honour Joseph Dean (letter, February 17) finds it difficult to see the iustification for the Court of Appeal's recent quashing of the conviction of the alleged IRA terrorist. Nicholas Mullen, because he had been illegally deported from Zimbabwe rather than going through the proper extradition process.

The justification is simple. As Lord Griffiths pointed out in the House of Lords in Bennett v Horseferry Road Magistrates Court (1993), the judiciary accept a responsibility for the maintenance of the rule of law that, inter alia, refuses to countenance behaviour threatening either basic human rights or the rule of law.

Perhaps another way of putting it is that once the courts allow the executive to stoop to this sort of misconduct, they are reducing themselves to the same level as the allegedly wicked men they are trying.

Yours faithfully. ROBERT RHÓDES. 4 King's Bench Walk, Temple, EC4Y 7DL.

From Mr Charles G. Blake

Sir. His Honour Joseph Dean thinks that the Court of Appeal should not have allowed the appeal of Nicholas Mullen merely because of gross illegality by the Crown before the trial occurred. But this is the effect of the Criminal Appeal Act 1995 which replaced the previous test of "unsafe or unsatisfactory" by the unitary test of

Before 1995 this would have been dealt with as an unsatisfactory verdict. There was nothing unfair about the trial process but, rather, the benaviour of the Crown was, according to the court, so bad as to require the sanction of quashing the conviction. That approach is now denied to the Court of Appeal. It had to force this case into the mould of "unsafe" when the safety of the conviction was not

The Home Secretary should look again at the 1995 Act. Whether illegality by the Crown can ever justify acquitting a defendant of a most serious crime is itself a matter to be reconsidered.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES G. BLAKE, 46 Linden Gardens, W4 2EH. xdu57@dial.pipex.com February 17.

Seeing red

From Mr D. A. Lycett

Sir. Rose-ringed parakeets may be glamorous to look at and may well do no harm to anybody" (Weekend. February 20), but I can vouchsafe that they need "keeping an eye on". I have found them very destructive to the chestnut and winter-flowering prunus trees; also the blossom and red berries are nipped from the base of the cotoneaster shrub and let fall.

These used to be a lovely sight at the appropriate time of year but now, with the advent of these birds. I count myself lucky if in spring the chestnut has a quarter (probably less) of what it used to display.

These invaders should not be viewed through rose-tinted spectacles, no matter how colourful they are.

Yours faithfully. D. A. LYCETT. 9 The Paddocks. Broadstairs, Kent CT10 3AJ. February 23.

Priorities for Nato Low gear urged in drive to euro

From Mr G. T. L. Rose

Sir, As an instinctive pro-European with over 40 years' involvement in voluntary work for the Conservatives. was delighted to read the article by Mary Ann Sieghart, "Young, free and anti-single market (February 26). I find it quite wrong that moderate members of the party such as myself should be labelled as right-wing xenophobes because we cannot support an early entry by the UK into economic and monetary union.

Should sterling be abandoned in favour of the euro, this country will have made an irreversible decision which will surely lead eventually to a federal Europe. This may come to be seen as the right economic answer within the next few years and, per haps, in the longer term, also the right political answer. But the case is far from proven and I can only wish Mary Ann Sieghart, David Owen and their group every success in their campaign at least to delay the

G. TIMOTHY L. ROSE, Ennerdale, Clifton, Ashbourne DE6 2GR. February 27.

From Mr Clive Webster

Sir, As one who trades with most EU countries and many in other continents, I believe that the euro. like the US dollar, should become an excellent vehicle for inter-European and inter-

However, the concerns which were so well identified in your leader. "Five tests for Europe" [February 24; letters, February 25, 26, 27], could be largely overcome if only the European govern-ments concerned had agreed to a longer and more flexible transition, with the euro running in tandem with national currencies.

Business leaders and politicians are becoming increasingly polarised in their views. Yet both sides have valid arguments which would be largely overcome if we were permitted a longer period of transition to prepare our economy for the single currency.

Voters in our referendum, when it comes, should not be presented with a "euro yes or no" question when they may well want to vote "yes" for the

euro and "no" or "not yet" for abo-lition of the pound. It would therefore be better to delay the referendum, too.

The problems outlined in your leader are of immense consequence for all EU countries; but there is a sixth test, namely the intention of the EU to incorporate the former Eastern bloc countries in a very few years. Bearing in mind the impact that unification had, and still has, on the German economy and the mark, we should remain very cautious about abolishing the pound until those countries are fully integrated into the EU and performing to the Maastricht criteria.

Yours faithfully, CLIVE WEBSTER, Clive Webster Limited. Shoelands, Seale, Farnham, Surrey GUI0 1HL February 25.

From Mr B. E. Danton Sir, The Danes initially voted against acceptance of the conditions set out in the Maastricht treaty. Subsequently these conditions were accepted after a second vote.

If, in the forthcoming referendum. the British people reject acceptance of the euro how many referenda will be necessary before, in the eyes of the Government, we "get it right"?

Yours sincerely, B. E. DANTON, 20 Mere Close, Newport, Shropshire TF10 7OL. brian.danton@

mere-close.freeserve.co.uk

From Mr Rupert Pepper

Sir, I see Mr Paddy Ashdown considers the Government has "crossed the Rubicon" with the Prime Minister's National Changeover Plan (report, February 24). Would this be the treacherous and megalomaniac act of Julius Caesar in 49BČ, which plunged his powerful nation into years of civil wars and social and economic misery, earning its perpetrator a violent end within five years at the hands of his closest associates? Or does Mr Ashdown mean another Rubicon?

Yours faithfully, RUPERT PEPPER, Trinity College, Cambridge CB2 ITQ. February 24.

ists and the uniqueness and invention

of Matisse and Picasso among others.

Of course, the wheat needs to be

sorted from the chaff in any age. Sad-

Sale of art fakes

From Mr John Pittuck

Labour and tax

Sir, While respecting David Gould's original works of art (letter, February 22) I am not sure I can agree with his sweeping reference to much of mod-

ern art as "questionable rubbish". What distinguishes the importance of any work of art, as I see it, lies not in the facility with which its technical style can be copied, but in less obvious and unscientific criteria. If it were otherwise the admired painstakingness of the Pre-Raphaelites would take precedence over the Impression-

February 22.

From Mr R. Mallace From Mr F. G. R. Fisher Sir. In the leaflet enclosed with my 1999-2000 tax coding, the Inland Revenue explains that (to use its example) a 60-year-old married man with a total annual income of £5,500, who previously paid no tax, will now have to pay £43 tax because of changes to the married man's allow-

This from a Government whose venality would make many dictators Yours sincerely,

R. MALLACE, 3 Hinton House Farm Cottages, Byfield, Daventry, Northamptonshire NNII 3QT. mallace@mcmail.com February 23.

Nuclear power

Sir. Sir James Hann (letter, February 10) is quite right to call for an "authoritative, independent study" on the future civil uses of nuclear energy. The Royal Institute of International Affairs has already identified this need, and I act as chairman of a steering group to set up just such a study within the institute's energy and

environment programme. We propose to run a series of workshops focusing on the more controversial topics, including waste disposal, safety, proliferation, economic viability and competition with other forms of energy. It would bring participants from a wide range of backgrounds together in a neutral forum.

The aim of these workshops is not to reach agreement between the different points of view, probably an impossible task, but to achieve a better understanding of the possibilities, in the hope that such information would help governments and the public worldwide to understand the issues and so help the decision-making Drocess.

We look forward to support, both financial and moral, from Sir James and others who want an impartial scrutiny of the vital issues involved.

Yours faithfully. CRISPIN TICKELL, The Royal Institute of International Affairs. 10 St James's Square, SWTY 4LE.

ly, we find today a small handful of undeserving lightweights and their patrons receiving the bulk of the publicity. This should not detract from the many serious artistic develonments in our time which will endure. It is unfair to paint the majority of modern artists with the same brush.

Yours sincerely JOHN PITTUCK Hillside Cottage, 62 Dunmow Road, Bishop's Stortford CM23 5HL.

Biographers' place

Sir. Where do biographers perch? This problem has exercised me for a number of years. It cropped up again today when I read in John Lowe's biography of John Sparrow (Harper-Collins, 1998): "When John came to Winchester . . . "Other biographers

speak of their subjects "coming to Oxford" and, a chapter or two later. coming to Liverpool". Do biographers actually seek lodging in these places before they pen the

relevant paragraphs? Yours faithfully, ROBSON FISHER, Craig Cottage, Lower Street, Dittisham, Nr Dartmouth, Devon TQ6 0HY.

February 22.

From Sir Michael Moore. Director General of the From Sir Crispin Tickell

Institution of Mechanical Engineers Sir. What a good letter from Professor Ian Fells (February 10), advocating the virtue of nuclear power.

This institution was commissioned in June 1998 by the Engineering Council to produce views for the engineering profession and Govern-ment on energy for the 21st century. Nuclear energy is very much part of

that equation. However, we also need a balanced portfolio of primary fuels which recognises the UK's indigenous resources, coupled with the best available technologies, whether coal, gas, oil, nuclear or renewable energy.

How this can best be achieved in a market economy, which needs lowestcost energy, has to be addressed by the politicians taking account of technical, economic and commercial advice.

We await action. Yours faithfully, MICHAEL MOORE, Director General, Institution of Mechanical Engineers, l Birdcage Walk, SWIH 9U. m_moore@imeche.org.uk February 10.

Sport letters, page 33

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.ak

End of 'subsidy' for classical music

From the Chief Executive of the Performing Right Society

Sir, The protest by Dr Donald Mitchell and five composers over our decision to cease subsidising live performances of classical music (lener, Febru-

ary 23) needs to be seen in context. A report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission in 1996 charged the Performing Right Society with making its distributions fairer, more accurate and more transparent. This has been achieved through an extensive two-year market research project which produced a statistically valid model for collecting performance information and for apportioning royal-

ties more accurately than ever belore. We have therefore decided to remove all "hidden" special compensatory payments via royalty distributions, without value judgments which single out any particular genres of music. The phasing out of the classical music subsidy in its current form is in the same spirit of greater accuracy, fair-ness and transparency. Membership consultation has shown no majority

support for a classical music subsidy. The vast majority of our present subsidy to classical music is paid to music publishers and the estates of deceased composers, most of whom are not British. Far from the effect of its withdrawal being "devastating", only II per cent of it is paid to living British composers.

Although such subsidy will cease by 2002, we shall certainly continue supporting classical music, but in a more focused and transparent way.

Yours faithfully, JOHN HUTCHINSON, Chief Executive. Performing Right Society. 29-33 Berners Street, WIP 4AA. February 22.

From Mr Trevor Glover and others

Sir, The implications of the unilateral decision by the PRS will affect contemporary classical music in this country for years to come. Such music involves major investment by publishers, especially in the preparation of performance materials for large or-chestral forces, and there is usually a long period before a new classical work gains public recognition. These costs, often unrecouped for decades. are funded by the publishers' share of these very revenues, which this decision has cut almost in half.

This comes as the final straw, following a series of changes to PRS distribution methods in the last decade which have all had an adverse effect on classical earnings in the UK. For example, a typical performance of a 20-minute work in the Queen Elizabeth Hall which earned around £275 in 1994 currently earns £180; after removal of the subsidy, this sum will fall to around £90, shared be-

tween composer and publisher. These are desperate days indeed for publishers, composers and their estates in Britain, and the PRS decision will be viewed with incredulity in the international world of music, which still regards the fundamental contribution of the UK publishing community to be a benchmark for the creation, encouragement and promotion of contemporary classical music. We urge the PRS board to suspend abolition of the subsidy.

Yours faithfully, TREVOR GLOVER, Managing Director, Boosey & Hawkes, CHRIS BUTLER, Director, Novello & Co. SALLY GROVES, Head, Contemporary Music, Schott Ltd. MARTIN KINGSBURY. BEN NEWING, Head, Business Affairs, Universal Edition, JAMES RUSHTON, Director, Chester Music 295 Regent Street, WIR 8JH.

Brit-spotting

From Lady Bowman Sir. Mr M. D. Jervis asks if British women are as recognisable abroad as their male counterparts (letter, February 26; see also letters, January 29. February 6, 13, 18 and 20).

I can only report that, emerging from the sea at a trendy French beach having swum round from an adjoining cove, I was immediately addressed in English.

But could it have been because I was wearing a one-piece bathingdress with a skirt?

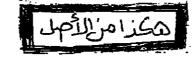
Yours faithfully, CHRISTIAN BOWMAN, The Walled Garden, Chamberlain Street Wells. Somerset BA5 2PE. February 26.

From Mrs Carole Howman

Sir. Whilst holidaying in Paxos, I went for an early morning swim in the bay. Anchored about a quarter of a mile away was a magnificent yacht. which I swam towards and around.

When I had completed the circuit a guttural voice called out "Go away English woman™ Being from Yorkshire I proceeded to swim round three

Yours sincerely, CAROLE HOWMAN, Hillibrow, Church Green, Great Wymondley, Hitchin, Hertfordshire SG4 7ES. February 26.



Forthcoming

marriages

Mrs Parrick King, of Spaiding Lincolnshire, and Claudine, eldest

daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael

and Miss L.R.M. Newton
The engagement is announced
between Warren, son of Mr J.W.
Muschialli and Mrs J. Schroeter.
of Melbourne. Australia. and

Lucinda, daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Newton, of Manor Park, Ripe, East Sussex

Mr C.J. Rotheroe and Miss L.N. Cannon Brookes

The engagement is announced between Charles, elder son of Mr

and Mrs Peter Rotheroe, of Wind-

sor Great Park, Berkshire, and Lucinda, daughter of Mr and Mrs

Mark Cannon Brookes, of Kensing-

and Miss L.K.N. Derdin-Robertson

The engagement is announced between Hugh, younger son of Major and Mrs John Shirley, of Ormly Hall, Runney, Isle of Manand Lucy, youngest daughter of the late Rey and Mrs Lawrence Durgin Behaviour of Humanay.

Durdin-Robertson, of Humington Castle, Co Wexforti.

The engagement is announced between lain, elder son of Mr and

Mrs John Weatherby, of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire, and Emily, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Thomas Pumeroy, of Osming-

Mr M.A. du Ry van Boest Holle and Miss I.A. de Gier

The marriage took place on February 27, 1999, at All Saints Church.
Ham, Witshire, between Mr.
Marc-Antoine du Ry van Beest
Holle, son of Professor and Mrs

Charles du Ry van Beest Holle, of Cape Town, and Miss Imke Anne de Gier, daughter of Mr and Mrs

Hans de Gier, of Ham Manor.

ton, London.

Mr H.S. Shirley

Mr I. Weatherby

Marriage

Anniversaries

and Miss H.E. Pomeroy

Spong, of Loughton, Essex.

Mr W.J. Muschialli

Mr P.R. Barton and Miss A.J. Bowen

Bournemouth, Dorset.

Mr A.C. County-Britton

and Miss A.M. Hughes

Mr K.N.E. Cox

The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Colonel and Mrs G.H. Barton, of Whanon. Notinghamshire, and Amanda daughter of Mrs J.R. Cobain, of

The engagement is announced between Alasdair Calum, eldest

son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Couns-Britton, of Supreme Head-

quarters Allied Powers Europe, Mons, Belgium, and Alison Michelle, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John Hughes, of Ellesmere,

and Miss J.M. Bradish-Ellames

The engagement is announced between Kenneth, elder son of Mr

and Mrs Peter Cox, of Glendoick, Perthshire, and Jane, only daugh-

Simon Bradish-Ellames, of North

The engagement is announced between James Andrew, younger son of Mr and Mrs Keith Harding, of Broadstairs, Kent, and Laura Beatrice Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs William Shelford, of Challes East Canada.

The engagement is announced between Andrew Pietro Pitch.

younger son of Mir and Mirs Gerald Pincott, of Heathfield, East

Sussex, and Lucinda Jane, young-er daughter of Major-General and Mrs John Friedberger, of Whit-

The engagement is announced

between George, younger son of Mr TJ.B. Roberts, of Wootton Fizpaine, Dorset, and Mrs P.M.G.

Roberts, of Formby, Merseyside, and Rebeccs, daughter of Mr L.R. Mason, of Hammersmith, Lon-

don, and Mrs J.B. Finlay, of The

Ross, Kirkcudbrightshire.

Warnborough, Hampshire

Mr J.A. Harding and Miss L.B.E. Shelford

Chailey, East Sussex.

and Miss L.J. Friedberger

Mr A.P.F. Pincett

church, Hampshire.

and Miss R.S. Mason

Mr G.W. Roberts

Today's royal

engagements The Queen will hold a reception at Buckingham Palace at 6 for the winners of The Queen's Award for Export, "echnology and Environental Achievement. The Prince of Wales will launch the Welsh Beef Promotion Campaign at the Celtic Manor Hotel Golf and

Country Club, Newport, South Wales, at 11.45 The Princess Royal will visit Bath University Sports Training VI-lage, Bath, Somerset, at 2.30. Princess Alexandra will attend a reception at the Victoria and Albert Museum London, SW7, 7.15.

Baroness O'Neill of Bengarve

The life barony conferred upon Miss Oriora Sylvia O'Neill has been gazened by the name, style and title of Baroness O'Neill of Bengarve, of The Braid in the County C. Antrim.

Devon Lieutenancy The Earl of Iddesleigh has been of Devon. Greater Manchester

Lieutenancy Mr L Duncan Lawton has been appointed Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester.

Sir William Mars Jones A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Sir William Mars-Jones will be held in Gray's Inn Chanel at 5om today.

Gerald Corcoran A requiem mass will be said for the repose of the soul of Gerald Stuart Corcoran at 10.30am on Wednes-day, April 14, at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, London, WI.

Reception

English-Speaking Union
A reception to honour the work of
Professor and Mrs H.R. Duhme was held on Saturday at Dart-mouth House. Mr William Glover was the host at the reunion of the recipients of the English-Speaking Union Bell Tower Scholarship. Birthdays today

Birthdays today
Lady Rose Windsor is 19 today.
Other birthdays include:
Mr Harry Belafonte, singer and
actor, 72: Mr David Broome, show
jumper. 59; Mr Douglas Bunn,
founder, All England Jumping
Course, Hickstead, 71: Sir Robert
Calderwood, former chief execunive, Strathchyde Regional Council,
67: Miss Florence Calvert, former
Principal, St Mary's College, Durham, 87: Mr Leslie Christie, trade
unionist. 60; Mr David Comins, ham, 87; Mr Lestie Christie, trade unionist. 60; Mr David Comins, Rector. Glasgow Academy, 51; Mr Roger Daltrey. actor and rock singer. 55; Mr Andrew Faulds. former MP and actor, 76; Sir Allan Green. QC. former Director of Public Prosecutions, 64; Air Chief Marshal Sir Lewis Hodges, 81; Sir Michael Kerr, former Lord Justice of Anneal 78; Crommodore Timoof Appeal, 78: Commodore Timo-thy Laurence, 44; Professor James Lister, paediatric surgeon, 76, Mr John Napier, stage designer, 55; Commandant Dame Nancy Rob-ertson, former director, WRNS, 90; Major-General P.T. Tower, 82; Sir Gerald Whent, former non-execu-tive chairman, Vodafone, 72.

Service dinners

33rd (Lancashire and Cheshire) Signal Regiment (V) Major-General LOJ. Sprackling, Master of Signals, attended a dinner of the 33rd (Lancashire and Cheshire) Signal Regiment (Volun-teers) held on Saturday in Liverpool which marked the retirement of Brigadier LRD. Shapter as Honorary Colonel of the Regi-ment. Lieutenant-Colonel R.J. Steed presided. Professor P. Toyne, Vice-Chancellor of Liverpool John Moore's University, was installed as the new Honorary Colonel.

Guif War Jaguar Pilots

Association
Group Captain G.W. Pixton presided at a Gulf War memorial dinner of the Gulf War laguar Pilots the Bosworth Hall Hotel, Market Bosworth. Squadron Leader David Waddington was the guest

Korean Veterans

The address for those wishing information about the British Kore-38 Spring Street, London W2 UA.

The night sky in March

BY MICHAEL J. HENORIE ASTRONOMY CORRESPONDENT

MERCURY should be visible in the west after sunset, the -0.5 magnitude inner planet setting nearly two hours after the Sun on the 3rd when it will be at greatest eastern elongation (18 degrees). It will fade quickly as it closes with the Sun to pass between the Earth and Sun at inferior conjunction on the 19th. Then a morning object until late May, it will remain too close to the Sun for

Venus is a brilliant evening star of -3.9 magnitude, not setting until 22h in late March. This evening apparition lasts until early August. Crescent Moon to the south on the 19th. Saturn to the south on the 20th. Mars is in Libra rising by 21h

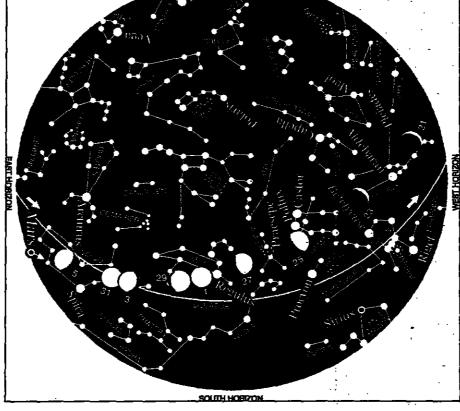
in late March. During the mouth it brightens from 0 to -1 magnitude. Its eastward or direct motion through Libra will be halted on the 18th when it reaches a stationary point and it will then begin to move westwards against the stars (retrograde motion) as it approaches opposition on 24th April. The Moon will be to the north on the 6th-7th. Jupiter is around -20 magnitude and moves from Pisces into Cetus in March. It will be low in the west on the 1st and become lost in evening twilight by mid-month as it approaches conjunction with the Sun on 1st April.

Saturn is 0.7 magnitude and moves from Pisces to Cetus in late March, setting only 2 hours after the Sun by the 31st. Moon near by on the 19th. Uranus is in Capricontinuous and the 19th. nus rising about 04h by the 31st. Moon to the north on the 14th. Neptune is also in Capricornus rising about 40 minutes before Uranus. Moon to the north on the Olambi. Hold of planets require optical aid, Uranus being 5,7 and Nepture 7,9 magnitude.
The Moon: Full Moon 2d 07h, Last quarter 10d 09h, New Moon

17d 19h, First quarter 24d 10h and Full Moon 31d 23h. There are two full Moons (not five as was stated inadvertently last month) this March as there were in January. The bright star Regulus in Leo will be near the Moon on the 1st and again on the 28th. The waxing crescent Moon will be near Aldebaran on the 22nd.

Sun crosses the equator from south to north, occurs at 21d 02h. Early March presents an op-portunity to see all the naked eye planets before midnight. Nearest the western horizon will be Mercury, always seen in twilight from our latitude. Jupiter is brighter than Mercury and a little higher in the sky. Both

The Spring Equinox, when the



The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the latitude of London are above use morizon in the samuoe of London at 23h Upun at the beginning, 2Zh (10pm) in the middle, and 2Ih (9pm) at the end of the month, local mean time. At places away from the Greenwich times at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for each 15 deg west of

Greenwich and earlier by a like amount if the place be east. The map should be turned so that the horizon the observer is facing (shown by the words around the circle) is at the bottom, the zenith being at the centre. Greenwich Mean Time, known to astronomers as Universal Time and expressed in 24-hour notation, is used in the panying notes unless otherwise stated

but hard to see after the 10th. Above Jupiter and unmistakably bright is Venus and above Venus will be Saturn. Venus will over-take Saturn on the 20th (minimum separation about 3 degrees) and Saturn will then lie below Venus, in turn to move into

twilight in early April.
The remaining naked eye planet, Mars, can be found in the eastern sky but not until after 23h (Ilpm) when it rises to the south of east. Mars is in Libra, a constellation without bright stars, but it should be readily identifiable by its reddish hue and brightness.

Given good weather the naked eye observer has a chance of seeing Mercury during periods lasting about ten days that occur only three or four times each year. Mercury will be seen only near the eastern (morning) or

twilight and will never be high in the sky during darkness. The sky near the horizon needs to be very

clear and free from obstructions Opportunities to see Mercury this year occur in the evening again in June-July (when the sky will be very bright) and in the morning in December. It is unlikely that any stars will be seen near it becomes of the bright. seen near it because of the bright sky so naming the constellation it is in is usually of little help. One can only advise a search near the horizon after sunset or before sumrise. As it gets darker it will become more noticeable but it will also get lower and become fainter, so it may not be seen for more than 20 minutes or so, the reverse is true in the morning. Binoculars can help one to find it after which it often can be seen

morning) fix it in relation to a tree

or other ground object.
Venus is so bright that finding it is no problem. Like Mercury it is never in the south late at night, though it can set only shortly before midnight, as in May this year. In a good year like 1999 it appears on the charts (April-

June) as an evening object.

Because Mars's orbit is not much larger than the Earth's it takes a long time for the Earth to overtake it. The effect is for Mars to be visible for more than a year and then be missing from the night sky for much of the next year. This year it is at opposition (closest to the Sun) in April after which it will remain in the evening sky into 2000.

Jupiter and Saturn move in much larger orbits. Jupiter is brighter than any star and easily found but Saturn can be mista

BIRTHS: Caroline of Ansbach,

consort of King George II, Ansbach, 1683; Sir Samuel Romilly, lawyer, London, 1747; Frederic Chopin, composer, Zelazowa Wola, Poland, 1810; Augustus Pugin, architect of the Gothic revival, London, 1812: Lytion Strachey, writer, London, 1880; Roger Marrin du Gard, novelist, Nobel laureare 1937, Neufilly-sur-Seine, 1881: Oskar Kokoscha, painter, Pochlara, Austria, 1886; Glenn Miller, band leader, Clarinda, Iowa, 1904; David Niven, actor, London, 1910; Röbert Lowell, poet,

Boston, Massachusetts, 1917. DEATHS: Thomas Campion, musician and poet, London, 1620; poet, Salisbury, 1633; Edward Moore, writer, London, 1575; George Grossmith, co-author of The Diary of a Nobody, London, 1912; Gabriele D'Annunzio, poet, dramatist and nationalist, Gardone Riviera, Italy, 1938; Jackie Coopen, actor, 1984. Today is the Festival of St David. the patron saint of Wales.

The 20-month-old son of the American avistor Charles Lindbergh was kidnapped from his nursery, 1932 Americans tested a hydrogen

bomb at Bikmi Atoll, 1954. Archbishop Makarios ended his exile and returned to Cyprus, 1959. The Soviet unmanned spacecraft Venus 3 landed on Venus, 1966.

Leap-year anniversaries BIRTHS: Ann Lee, founder of the American sect of Shakers, Man-chester, 1736: Gioacchino Rossinis) composer, Pesaro, Italy, 1792; John Philip Holland, submarine pio-neer, Liscannor, Co Clare, 1840. DEATHS: John Whitgift, Archbishop of Canterbury 1583-1604. London, 1604; Edward Frederic Benson, novelist, London, 1940. The St Gotthard Tunnel was

completed, linking Switzerland and Italy, 1880. Dutch scientists produced solid helium, 1908.

Pakistan became an Islamic repub lic, 1956. Hugh Heffner opened the first Playboy Club in Chicago, 1960.

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Nature notes

THE first coots are building their reedy nests at the edges of lakes. They stand tall on them and look out for rivals. When the males fight they are very fierce, sometimes forcing their enemy's head under water and drowning him. Their relatives,

the moorhens, have also started sparring vigorously. Starlings are singing around their nest holes in trees and gutters: among the babbling notes of their song, a stands out. Skylarks are singing steadily over the fields and moors: they stay above the patch of corn or heather in which they will nest, and swoop down to chase other skylarks out of it. In the

woods, the gruff cooing of the

stock doves can be heard.

They are a bluer grey than the



wood pigeons, and have a green, not a white, neck patch, but they are shyer than wood On sallow trees, silver catkins are opening, coated with bright yellow pollen. On horse-chestnut trees the sticky buds are getting very fat. Bright green leaves are sprouting on the wild rose bushes. where the remains of last

year's hips hang like small black prunes. DJM

Dinner

10 King's Beach Walk A dinner in honour of Mr. Winston Roddick, QC, on his Wales, was given by his cham-bers. 10 King's Bench Walk, Temple, at the Mermaid Event & Conference Centre, on Saturday, February 27, 1999. The toast was proposed by Mr Ronald Thwaites, QC, Head of Chamhers, and Mr Roddick responded.
A painting was presented to Mr Roddick by Mr Georges Khayat, QC, Deputy Head of Chambers,

on behalf of chambers. Mrs Roddick and Daniel and Helen Roddick were also present. Among the guests were: Previous heads of chambers, His

Honour Bernard Lewis and Mrs Lewis, His Honour Henry Palmer and Mrs Palmer, and Judge Kenneth Zucker. QC, and Mrs Zucker: Lord Hooson, QC, and Lady Hooson, Sir Maldwyn and Lady Thomas, Judge Prosser, QC, and Mrs Prosser, Judge Monro-Davies, QC, Mr Gerald Moriaty, QC, and Mrs Moriaty, Mr Michael Beresford-West, QC, Mr Joseph Harper, QC, Mr Michael Douglas, QC, and Mr and Mrs John Evans.

Epsom College

quite easily without them. Hav-ing found it the first evening (or

There will be a Reunion this year for all Old Epsomians who entered the College between 1950 and 1962 on Saturday, May I, starting with tours of the school at 2.00pm and ending with a buffet supper at 6.45pm. There has already been a good response. Anyone requiring details should write to the Headmaster. The correct date for Founder's Day this year is Saturday, May 29.

The next Old Epsomian dinner will be held on Saturday, October 23, 1999, at Epsom College.

Sherborne School for Girls

The Prince of Wales has accepted an invitation to the Centenary Celebrations at Sherborne School for Girls on Thursday, April 29, 1999. Old Girls are invited to attend whether or not they are members of the Old Girls Union. Details can be found in the latest Journal and will be put on the Web site (www.sherborne.com). Those inform the Secretary. Sherborne School for Girls by March 15. They will then be sent tickets, information and the day's programme.

TRADE: 0171 481 1982 FAX: 0171 481 9313

PUBLIC NOTICES

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In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. 2 Timothy 3.12 (NIV).

AGNEW - On February 25th 1990 to James and Sarah (née Newman) a daughter,

FLOWER - On February Let 1999 at the John Raddillie Hospital, Oxford, to Harriett (née Sinciair) and David, a son, Edward George Hugo, a brother for Alice.

SIGGART - On 19th Febru 1993, to Elizabeth (née Webber) and James, a daughter, Iona Claire Molly.

BIRTHS

JENSUNGS - On 22nd February to Emma (née Burch) and Robin, a daughter, Rachel Katherine

SHELDON - On Pebruary 18th 1999 to Amrita and Tim, a sou, Michael Gervase Amrit, a brother

DEATHS

BECKER - Rolf. On 24th February after a chort illness. Agod 57 years. Guys Hospital Deutal School 1960-1965. Memorial Service at 3.00 pm on Saturday 20th March at St Mary's Church, Burstall, Sulfolk.

BOTTOBELY - Peliciné
Elizabeth (née Lacy) en
Pebruary 26th, peacafully
at home. Beloved wife of
the late Donald Bottomley,
dearly loved and loving
Mother of Iane and Prue
and devoted Grandmother
of Iamea, Andree, Daryi
and Alexander, Puneral
service to be held at
Putney Vale Crematorium
on Friday March 5th at
3pm.

REL - Elizai Vivien peacefully at home on February 21st, Funeral Service at Easthourne Cremsterium (Hide Hollow, Languey, Easthourne) on Thursday

Eastbourne) on Thursda March 4th at 12 noon. Family Rowers only. Donations if desired to RNL1 (Eastbourne Lifeboat Station) c/o Serenity Funeral Directors. 43 South Stre Eastbourne BN21 4UT. ODRINGTON - Barbar

CODFRINGTON - Barbara
Mary. Peacefully at home
on 25th February 1998
aged 73. Surrounded by
her beloved husband John
and her devected children,
Simon, Martin, Edward,
Inns, Hugh, Vincent,
Tessa, Kate, Giles and
Lizzy and in the prayers of
her sister Pegs, her three
soms-in-liew, six
daughters-in-law and
thirty two grandchildren.
Requiem Mass at St
Osmunds, Barnes on 5th
March 1999 at 11 am.
Private burisi in
Ampleforth, Family
Howers only, Donations, if
deaired, to Handicapped
Childrens Pilgrimage
Trust, 1904 High Street,
Bansteed, Surrey SM7
2RB.

CORRE - Marjory Hilds of Cheum, peacefully on 24th February aged 87 years, leaves husband Gilbert and daughters Linds and Hilary, who will sadly miss her. Funeral on Wednesday 3rd March at 3 pm Randails Park Creusatviam.

GOOD - Richard George Cood OBE aged 24 years, pescafully in Aldbourne Nursing Home on February 28th. Much loved father of Tony, Dudley, David, Psul, Carols and Roger. Funeral service at St Michael's Church, Bray, On-Thames on Monday, Om-Thames on Monday, or Augment Caurch, Bray-On-Thamse on Monday March 8th at 12 noon. Family Rowers only, donations if desired to the National Dairymens' Senerolant Institution. All further information from Camp Honoon Funeral Camp Hopson Funeral
Directors, Newbury,
Berics, tel 01635 52210. A
memorial service will be
held at St Lawrence
Church, Hungerford on
Friday April 10th at 11.30
am.

GOODWIN - David Captain
R.N., of Woodgreen,
Fordingbridge, peacefully
in his sleep at sea in the
West Indies on February
25th. Much loved heaband
of the late Aline and father
of Michael and Peter.
Thanksgiving at St
Bonifsee Woodgreen to be
arranged Family flowers,
donations to the
Samaritans and enquiries
c/o John Shering F.D. 34
Provoet Street,

Provost Street, Fordingbridge, SP6 1AY.

JONES - Donald Keith died CMES - Donald Keith died pascefully on February 28th aged 63. Dearly loved husband of Barbara and devoted father of Amanda, Funeral Service at St Mary and St Nicholas Pariah Church, Leatherhead on Friday March 5th at 11.45sm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations it dearred to The British Heart Foundation c/o Stoneum Funeral Service, Doran Court, Reigate Road, Redhill.

KOCHANSSI - On February
25th, pescefully in the
Nufficial Hospital
Tumbridge Wells
Stanishav Leon
Kochanski, Service at St
Augustinan Charach,
Tumbridge Wells, Tuesday
March 2nd at 10.30 am,
followed by interment in
Southborough Cemetery.
Flowers to Wellson, Jones,
Funeral Directors, 156
London Road, Servencaka,
TN13 101. Tel: 01732
742400.

742400.
KONSTAM - Dr Helen Lorne, née Dunn, beloved wife of Dr Geoffrey LS Konstam deceased and mother of Gervin, Nigol and Genma, on February 25th eged 97. Funeral service at Golders Orsen Cromatorium Monday, March 8th at 2,45pm. Plowers to Kanyon's, 83 Westbourpe Grove, W2.

LEE - Irene Norsh (née Green). On Thursday 25th February died peacefully in her sleap at Calcaroft Nursing Flome. Widow of Alfred Robert Lee, dearly loved mother of Rosemary and Januifer and much loved Grandmother and Greet-Grandmother, Funeral service at Woking Crematorium on Friday 5th March at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only.

PRIVATE

MORGAM - On January 19th 1999 in an socident at Sidmouth, Meliasa A. L.I. Morgan B.A., Solicitor, dearest sweetest daughter of Evelyn A. L.I. Morgan, and of Christine Bathurst; devoted and affectionate sister of Calia, and twin of the late James. Memorial service at Pirbright Village Church, Thuraday 4th March, Jum. Family flowers only. Others please send donations to National Missing Persons Helpline, 234-6 Upper Richmond Road West, SW14 7JE.

DYSTON - Claire-Marie
(née Binst), peacefully en
20th February 1999. In
Switzerland after a long
illness, surrounded by
family. Funeral to take
place in Switzerland en lat
March. Denstions in lieu
of flowers to Trinity
Rospica, London SW4.
Correspondence c/o Mrs J
Mann, 23 Richmond Ave,
London N1.

ROGERS - George Theodore on 24th February aged 79. Funeral Service at St. Dunstann Church, Cheam, Surrey on Monday 8th. March at 12 noon, all friends are warmly invited. No flowers piesse, retiring collection for the Bishop's Lent appeal. All enquiries to Truelove & Son Ltd., Cheam, tel: 0151-642 3300.

SHERLEY - David Andrew late of Litmore Shaw, listone peacefully in his sleep on Thursday February 25th. Beloved husband of Catherine and a much loved step father and step grand latter. Pumeral service to be held on Friday 5th March at All Seints Pariah Church, Flore, Northants at 12 noos. Memorial service at Lincoln's lun to be announced later.

IN MEMORIAM -HOMAS - Dr. William (Bill) always remembered. So

WANTED

SPICER - (née Gilroy) Sarsh age 58. Died 25th February stier a hunting accident. Adored wife of Julian, much lowed mother of Charles and Alexandra, loving mother-in-law to Victoria and Humphrey and deveted grandmother to Lily, Funeral at 2.30pm on Friday 5th March at St Mary's Church, Palenhan, Bury St. Edmunds, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk. Exquirtes to L. Fulcher, Funeral Directors on 01284 754 049.

PERSONAL COLUMN

always remembered. So loved and missed by us all Mary.

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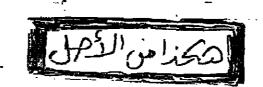
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LADY PANSY LAMB

Lady Pansy Lamb, writer. died on February 19 aged 94. She was born on May 18, 1904.

aughter of an earl. bohemian, blue stocking and devoted fan the Pope, Lady Pansy Lamb surprised everybody but herself. Painted almost continuously by her Bloomsbury husband. Henry Lamb, she be etained the unselfconscious, anismine charm of her youth into 11-her nineties. Her sister-in-law, Christine, the Countess of Longford, described her, seventy years before, as "a blonde angel, her eyes lakes of blue, and her 'tints' - as the Victorians would have called them - like wild

But ideas were always more important to Pansy than appearances. Perhaps this made her the perfect subject for Henry Lamb, 20 years her senior and already once married to a famous Bloomsbury model and free spirit. Euphemia. Lamb had been Lady Otteline Morrell's lover and Carrington's intimate. and in later years he entertained his nieces with stories of being chased round the rockery by Lytton Strachey, whose lust was constrained by his trousers falling round his knees.

Lady Pansy's feelings about her husband's Bloomsbury friends remain obscure, though she recently criticised their manners as "rather gauche". Nevertheless, at her 90th birthday party she fell into animated conversation with Frances

England, by then, was only a holiday destination to her, for at the age of 75 her allegiance to Pope John Paul II prompted her to a new life in Rome, where she lived until her death.

Lady Margaret Pansy Felicia Lamb was the second child and eldest daughter of the Earl and Countess of Longford. (The family were ennobled by "that brute Cromwell", as John Betjamin put it.) Her younger brother. Frank Longford, inherited the earldom when his brother Edward died without an heir in 1961. Her younger sisters are the writers Lady Mary Clive, who published a memoir of her growing up. Brought Up and Brought Out. and Lady Violet Powell, who married the novelist Anthony Powell and also published a family memoir, Five Out of Six. The fourth sister, Lady Julia, was the mother of the Editor of The Times Literary

Supplement, Ferdinand Mount.

Colin Purbrook.

jazz pianist and double

bass player, died in

London on February 5.

aged 62. He was born in

Scaford, Sussex, on

February 26, 1936.

ANY American jazz musician

visiting Britain who wanted a

sympathetic and knowledgeable

accompanist needed to look no

further than Colin Purbrook.

The list of world-famous mus-

icians he played for during the 1960s and 1970s is remarkable

and included Benny Carter. Devter Gordon and Eddie Lock-

On the London stage he spent some months in 1987 at the

Donmar accompanying the Memphis-born singer Dee Dee

Bridgewater in her title role as

"Lady Day", and not long before

that he had directed the British

hand that took over from the

original American musicians in

the London production of One

battle in his long war against cancer, he proved that his talents

were undimmed when he ap-

peared at the Brecon Festival

and on Radio 3 with the all-star hand Tenor Gladness, with the

American saxophonists Scott Hamilton, Ken Peplowski and

Harry Allen, and the veteran

Although Purbrook was happy in almost all styles of

swing drummer Jake Hanna.

Last year, having won one



Henry Lamb's last portrait of his wife, Lady Pansy, dating from 1947

children became fatherless when the Earl of Longford was killed leading a charge at Gallipoli, pipe in mouth. His last words were: "I wish you would stop ducking Fred. The men don't like it and it doesn't do any good." Family life continued as before. divided between England, Aston Hall in Oxfordshire, London and Ireland, where the family home boasted 130 rooms and extensive castellations and turrets, plus water garden. Chinese gardens and long walls of hothouses. Throughout her life Lady Pansy paid it an annual visit.

School was not comme il faut for the older two girls, and Pansy's famously encyclopaedic

memory. Her thirst for knowledge was certainly not satisfied by the world of London debutantes, where an earl's daughter was expected to find a husband in the Twenties, so the rebellious Pansy took a job in the office of the architect George Kennedy. through whom she met Henry Lamb. At that time she was sharing a flat with Evelyn Gardener, whom she introduced to Evelyn Waugh, which resulted in the disastrous union of she-Evelyn and he-Evelyn. While waiting in the countryside for their respective marriages to be arranged (Lamb needed a divorce first). Evelyn Waugh wrote Decline and Fall and Pansy

tually published bearing a cover drawing by Waugh. The Lambs set up home at Coombe Bissett in Wiltshire in 1928 and as Anthony Powell said, 'Henry threw himself into family life with the same sort of energy and enthusiasm he

brought to everything he did." Soon they had three children. and because money was short (earls daughters being on their own in that respect). Pansy continued her self-education by daily trips to Beaches secondhand bookshop just outside the Close in Salisbury, where she stood reading for hours. She had introduced her husband to a new circle of friends, including Lord

John Betjamen, who began a poem, "Oh the calm of Coombe Bissett is tranquil and deep . . .

During the war Lamb was an official war artist and Pansy discovered one of several impor-Gaulle. Two other heroic Charleses, Charles I and the French Roman Catholic poet Charles Peguy, inspired her to write books. Her translation of Peguy's The Holy Innocence and other Poems was published in 1956 and suggests that her later conversion to Catholicism was not the sudden decision that

In 1960 Henry Lamb died, and Pansy moved in rather reduced circumstances to Notting Hill Gate in London, where she took in exotic, mostly Romanian lodgers, helped at a home for the blind and, in a team of academics under Humphrey House, worked at her most scholarly occupation, working on the letters of Dickens - another Charles - for the great Pilgrim

However, in 1981, aged 75, with her eyesight already failing, she announced that she was going to live in Rome so as to be near to Pope John Paul II, whose real name was Karol (Charles) Wojtyla. Shortly after arriving there, she was received into the Catholic Church, and she soon knew more about the Vatican's treasures than many lifelong

Her flat, in the old quarter of Rome, was always ringing to the strains of Vatican Radio (in English, because she never mastered Italian - although she learnt Ancient Greek in her late seventies). The walls were cov-ered with Henry Lambs, the shelves filled with signed Evelyn Waughs and the air was thick with smoke from the cigarettes she never abandoned.

Despite semi-blindness, she walked everywhere, an indomitable upright figure, proud to avoid death by Roman traffic. Several times a week she took up position under the portico of St Peter's as one of the official guides for English-s, aking visi-tors. Three years a,) she en-joyed a private audience with the Pope, for which she swapped her usual red and brown peaked cap for a black lace mantilla, showing the depth of her feeling for the man whose "spiritual energy" she so admired. Her companion on that occasion noted that "she reverenced the Pope like a humble courtier reverencing Louis XIV - as well as thoroughly

enjoying the Vatican gossip". The Longfords were soldiers knowledge arose from a passion began the first of two novels, The David Cecil, Cecil Beaton, L. P. Lady Pansy Lamb is surviand sailors, and in 1915 the six for books and a phenomenal Old Expedient, which was even-Hartley, Kenneth Clark and by two daughters and a son. Lady Pansy Lamb is survived

CLIVE BUTLER

Clive Butler, consulting surgeon to the London Hospital. 1937-69, died on January 25 aged 94. He was born on April 8, 1904.

NO PASSENGER on the maiden voyage of the Queen Mary in 1936 could have guessed that the handsome young ship's surgeon. Clive Butler, would soon be world-famous for his work with the first antibiotics. He was to serve more than 30 years as a surgeon at the London Hospital. sought after especially in cases of infection. Edward Clive Barber Butler's parents had both trained at the London (his father as a doctor, his mother as a nurse) and both had helped to care for "the Elephant Man" after his rescue by Sir Frederick Treves. Clive was head boy at Shrewsbury before entering the London Hospital Medical College in 1923. There he met Howard Florey, a young Australian microbiologist who was later to share the

Nobel Prize for his work on penicillin. Butler qualified in 1928 and was trained in surgery by the legendary Russell Howard. In his seven months on the Queen Mary he crossed the Atlantic 30 times. making many friends, including Clifford Naunton Morgan, the colorectal surgeon. and Nancy Harrison, the vivacious

American beauty who became his wife.

Out of the blue a vacancy arose at the London Hospital when a surgeon pricked his finger during an operation, developed a rapidly spreading infection and died, in spite of amputation first of the finger, and then of his arm, a grim but typical example of infection in the days before antibiotics. Butler was called in to take charge of the "septic block".

In those crowded wards the worst cases were those of osteomyelitis — infection of the bone - which was then treated by releasing the pus from the marrow cavity by cutting a deep gutter along the length of the infected bone and encasing the whole limb in plaster. This, regardless of stench or maggots, was not changed for weeks, in the hope of avoiding the septicaemia which killed 25 per cent of adults and 80 per cent of children. Butler arrived in the wake of the discovery of the germ-killing effects of the red dye Prontosil, which was shown to be activated when it was changed in the body to sulphanilamide - which was easy to make and was not patented. It wrought miracles when infection was due to streptococcus, but not with staphylococcus, the usual cause of osteomycliris. No one learnt faster than Butler, who reported 500

cases in a Hunterian Lecture in 1940.
Suddenly, in 1944, things changed when, thanks to his old friend Hugh Cairns, who was working with Florey in Oxford. Butler was given a limited supply of penicillin. None of his next 21 patients died, and he soon showed that it was safe to close the wound within 7-10 days. The

months of stinking plaster were over.
Shortly after VE-Day the Government flew Butler and Alexander Fleming to Copenhagen to demonstrate the new methods. "Fleming was greeted with enormous enthusiasm." Butler wrote. "Little credit was given to the outstanding work done by Florey and his co-workers in Oxford during the war years. It is quite possible that without Florey's work, penicillin might never have been used on patients."

In the lulls between dealing with civilian casualties, Butler specialised in surgery of the large bowel and introduced new methods. He remained a general surgeon. but later developed a technique for removing cancers of the parotid gland. using an electric stimulator to protect the delicate branches of the lacial nerve.

Rather shy, he was a courteous and popular teacher, with an engaging foible of humming Lead, kindly light when in difficulties with the sigmoidoscope. He was never ruffled, even when an explosion once singed his eyebrows. He became chairman of the Court of Examiners at the Royal College of Surgeons, and in retirement continued as curator of the museum in his old medical college, in which were lovingly preserved the relics of his parents' friend and patient, Joseph.

Merrick, the Elephant Man. He was divorced in 1957, but he is survived by his daughter and two sons.

PROFESSOR DUNCAN **MITCHELL**

Duncan Mitchell, OBE, Professor of Sociology at Exeter University, 1967-85. died on January 25 aged 77. He was born on June 5, 1921.

AS A student at the London School of Economics after the war, Duncan Mitchell's studies included a course in sociology under Karl Popper, a class that produced a profusion of future sociologists.

In 1954, Mitchell was appointed to take charge of sociology in the philosophy department at Exeter, where, as the junior academic partner, responsible for a new subject and eager to expand it, he was aware of the danger of becoming a cuckoo in the departmental nest. Fortunately, the needs of his subject and its growing number of students were accommodated. Extra staff were appointed, and Mitchell was made head of department in 1963, and Professor of Sociology in 1967. Among his publications are Sociology: The Study of Social Systems (1959) and A Dictionary of Sociology (1968), which was

translated into some dozen languages. Sociology at Exeter reflected Mitchell's eclecticism. Members of staff enjoyed academic reputations in very different areas, and a particularly successful innovation was the establishment of an Institute of Population Studies with Mitchell as director. His contribution to the university was recognised by his appointment as Dean of the Faculty of Social Studies, as deputy vice-chancellor. and as acting vice-chancellor, 1972-73.

His service to the community was also

outstanding. In 1967 he was one of the founders of the Devon Community Housing Society, which he chaired for 30 years. At first it aimed to accommodate families, but it later concentrated on homes for the elderly, the physically disabled, and people with learning difficulties or needing nursing care. Now the owner of more, than 60 properties, it has specialised in converting empty buildings, such as a disused village school, and extending them into groups of

Mitchell was also a member of Dartmoor Prison's board of visitors, and served as chairman of the English Board of Visitors. He was particularly concerned for mentally ill prisoners, whom he considered to be in the wrong place for their own sakes and those of other inmates and prison staff. His speeches on this problem were not always favourably received by the Home Office. Nevertheless, he was appointed OBE in 1984.

He was a committed Christian all his life, and a lay preacher. He is survived by Margaret, his wife of 48 years, and by their son and daughter.

SIR GORDON JONES

Sir Gordon Jones, Chairman of Yorkshire Water, 1983-96, died on January 31 aged 71. He was born on February 17, 1927.

QUIET, caring and fun, Sir Gordon Jones was the ideal man, as chairman of the Water Authorities Association, to lead the ten water and waste water companies of England and Wales to successful privatisation in 1989. The selling to the public of a mixed bag of large, medium and small companies was unprecedented. The management teams sometimes bickered in public, but Gordon Jones harnessed the interests of boards of directors, government, banks, lawyers and accountants, and the eventual flotation was a success — perhaps because all of the big merchant banks, lawyers and stockbrokers in the City were themselves representing one or more of the com-panies or underwriting the offer.

Jones also continued as chairman of Yorkshire Water, where efficiency contin-

ued to improve. He was knighted in 1990. However, the company's reputation was dented in 1995, when an exceptional drought struck Yorkshire, raising the unacceptable prospect of restricting supply and using standpipes (though it never came to that). Hounded by an efficient Labour Opposition, the company was portayed as the worst in an unpopular industry. Jones was the first to admit that its presentation had been poor.

Gordon Jones was born in Swansea, to which he returned when he retired in 1996. After Swansea University, and four years in the Royal Navy, he joined the British Iron and Steel Research Association, working on raw materials and energy planning. At Esso Petroleum, which he joined in 1960, he became head of British industry sales, before returning to the steel industry as managing director of Rotherhain Tinsley Steel and Firth Vickers. In 1979 he became a director of T W Ward plc. He was a member of the

Government's advisory committee on business and the environment, 1993-96. He was also a governor of Leeds University, and his interest in young people's education and training was reflected by his honorary fellowship of the University College of Swansea, and an honorary DSC from Bradford University. He married Gloria Melville in 1951. She survives him, along with their daughter and twin sons.

Roland Walter (Tiny) Row-Lonrho, ex-newspaper owner. a citizen of Zimbabwe. of London SWI, left estate valued

at £25,973,190 net. Michael James Bentine, writer, comedian and actor, of Walton-on-the-Hill, Tadworth, Surrey, left estate valued at C258.noS.net.

Lord Soper, of London NWII. left estate valued at £200,000

The Countess of Oxford and

Asquith, of Mells, Frome,

Somerset, left estate valued at F(v)9.202 net. Arthur Claude Rye, of New Malden, Surrey, left estate valued at £7,123,919 net. John Henry Bower, of Canwick, Lincoln, left estate valued at £2.648.653 net.

Helen Mary Longsdon, of Llanvair Kilgeddin, Aberga-Cenny, left estate valued at £2.471,859 net.

 \mathcal{C}

traditional and mainstream jazz, he made his name in the forward-looking British modernist movement of the 1960s. Shortly after coming down from Fitzwilliam College. Cambridge. in 1957, he joined the iconoclastic clarinettist Sandy Brown. He began on bass but then switched to piano at a time when Brown's band was moving away from New Orleans revivalism to explore contemporary African

high-life music and original

compositions by the band's

members.

After a couple of years in which he gathered experience as varied as playing in Kenny Ball's band and on the Queen Mary, he naturally fell in with the core of London's modern jazz musicians, in bands such as the Allan Ganley / Ronnie Ross Jazzmakers (with which he spent several short spel(s) and the quintet led by Ronnie Scott and the trumpeier Jimmy Deuchar, By 1961. Purbrook had formed a working partnership with the saxophonist Tony Coe, and they worked together often in the 1960s, later renewing that association in the 1980s on the set of Lady Day, in which Coe played the grouchy saxophonist who was the foil for Bridgewater's portrayal of Billie

Purbrook's stage career began in 1963, during a spell as double bassist in Dudley Moore's trio. which provided the musical component of the revue Beyond the Fringe. The following year he played piano in the pioneering British modern jazz quintet jointly led by Don Rendell and Ian Carr, appearing on their album Shades of Blue. As the 1960s went on, he continued his association with Coe, both men appearing on a concert album cut in 1966 for the 77 label alongside the tenorist Tubby Hayes. By now he had begun working with the famous Americans, such as Benny Goodman. Chet Baker and Art Farmer.

COLIN PURBROOK

In 1977 he became musical director of the show Bubbling Brown Sugar, which enjoyed an extended run at the Royalty Theatre. He subsequently worked in several other shows, including Rent Party in 1989.

During the 1970s and 1980s, he often led his own bands, varying in size from a trio to a sextet, and his trio was frequently used by touring American soloists as a regular rhythm section. The theatrical and jazz sides of his work were most happily combined in his long association with the singer Annie Ross. whom he accompanied on and off for more than 25 years, including residencies within the last three years at the Pizza on the Park in Knightsbridge. His most recent recordings include the critically acclaimed 1996 Satin Album with the tenor saxophonist Bobby Wellins. His former wife and a son



Latest wills

Leslie Frederick Williams, of London W5. left estate valued at £2.273.141 net.

David Lewis Baldwin, of Tywyn, Gwynedd, left estate valued at £1,264,305 net. Pamela Anne Chivers, of Cambridge, left estate valued at estate valued at £1.098,031 £1,092,109 net.

St. Co. St. Combridge. Frings. Half. Cambridge. Frings. Half. Cambridge. Raff Bersolert. Fund. RSPCA. RSPB. Cancer. Rebet Material. Ltd. Lond. NSPCC. Barmardo. Save the Children Fund and WWF Fund UK. Sidney Vincent Cope, of Colyton, Devon, left estate valued at £1.039,2% net.

Richard Alan James Emery, of Shoeburyness, Essex, left estate valued at £1,149,724 net. Roy Neil Gibb. of London NW8, left estate valued at £1,340,036 net.

Phoebe Agnes Malet Hambleton. of Hyssington. Mont- ops Hull, Taunton, Somerset.

gomery, left estate valued at £1,098,447 net. Malcolm Reginald Hardi-man, of Wokingham, left esrate valued at £1,688,131 net. Christopher Charles Harley, of Bucknell. Shropshire, left

11CL He left £5,000 to Brampton Bryan Parachual Charch Council: £500 to Brampton Bryan Parish Hall Committee. John Lawson, of Prestbury. Cheltenham. Gloucestershire. left estate valued at £865,917

Lister Lea, retired farmer, of West Charleton, Kingsbridge, Devon, left estate valued at £1,086.803 net. Richard Marx dental surgeon, of South Stoke, Bath, left estate valued at £1,028,160 net. Edith Mary Meyers, of Bishleft estate valued at £1,029,600

HeL.
She left \$10,000 to Gunde Dogs for the Blind.
Elizabeth Steinfield, of Hampstead, London
NW3 left estate valued at \$1.304,571 net.
Eva Mary Sunley, of Truro. Cornwall, left estate valued at E1,603,059 net.

She left (10,000 to the Lions Club of Trurce
E5,000 to Devon and Corrowall Autistic
Community Trust: plus her residuacy
estate to the Bernard Sunley Charitable
Foundation.

Adeline Constance Tristram, of Eastbourne, left estate valued at £1,029,254 net.

She left (10,000 to both the RNLI and Guide Dogs for the Blind. Lewis John Turner, of Singleton. Chichester, West Sussex, left estate valued at £1.562.461

Margaret Hamilton Turner, of Keighley, West Yorks, left estate valued at £1,324,905 net. Michael Waller Beaufort Craig Waller, of London SWIO, left estate valued at £1,297,646 net. He left £1.000 to King Edward VII Hospital for Officers.

OPERA MERGER ON THIS DAY **PROPOSED**

THE Sadler's Wells Trust has proposed that its opera company should be amalgamated with the Carl Rosa Opera Company. If the serve both the provinces and Sadler's Wells

The proposal was made known yesterday to the staff of Sadler's Wells Theatre in a statement from Mr James Smith, chairman of the Sadler's Wells Trust. It was read by the director, Mr Norman Tucker, who later announced that, because of the proposed new policy, he had resigned together with Mr Stephen Arlen, general manager of the theatre, and Mr Alexander Gibson, the recently appointed music director. The resignations would take effect in July, at the end of the present contract period.

It was also announced that Mr John Wyckham, production manager and stage director of the opera company, had resigned. In his statement. Mr Smith said: For some time past it has been apparent that the continually rising cost of presenting

opera in this country might cause some curtailment of the activities of both the Carl

Rosa and the Sadier's Wells companies, both

March 1, 1958

The Carl Rosa Opera Company, which did much to popularise opera in Britain, was again in difficulties, but by no means finished.

of which receive substantial subsidies from the Arts Council. But the subsidies now available are insufficient to maintain two companies at their present levels and it does not appear possible for them to proceed as

separate organizations after the early summer of 1958 when existing contracts end.

In order to provide the widest possible coverage both in London and the country, the proposal is now being considered that the Sadler's Wells and Carl Rosa organizations should combine to set up a new trust representing both bodies. The new trust, with

one opera company, would undertake a tour

in the autumn of 1958 and a London season in the spring of 1959, followed by a further provincial four. Should times prove more propitious in the

future it may be possible to return to the position in which two companies can again be

The proposal means that one orchestra, one chorus, and one set of principals will be employed: it is to be presumed that these forces will be drawn from both companies. but many musicians will be without work as a

result of the amalgamation. Representatives of Equity and of the Musicians Union said that their organizations would resist to the utmost the proposed

changes.
In the statement announcing their resignations, Mr Tucker, Mr Arlen, and Mr Gibson expressed the view that the proposed new policy "means the cessation of the policy pursued by Sadler's Wells since its opening in 1931, operating primarily as a metropolitan house and, since the war, in a complementary

capacity to Covent Garden."

The statement went on: "Moreover, in spite of the re-employment that may be offered in individual cases, it involves the disbanding of the opera company which has been carefully built up over a long period and whose prestige has never stood higher than at the present time."

THE TIMES TODAY

Bootleggers force Brown's hand

Gordon Brown is to unveil a tougher-than-expected Budget after being hit by a £2 billion shortfall in revenue, much of it because of tobacco smuggling.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer is expected to announce an investigation into the operation of Customs and Excise after officials told him that he was losing more than £1 billion in duty a year through organised cigarette smuggling. The worldwide drop in oil prices will also mean the loss of several million pounds in revenue..

Euro challenge for Blair

David Owen and Denis Healey, vererans of the last Labour govenment, will return to the frontline to present a new challenge to the Government's move towards the euro. They will join forc-

Gibraltar siege

livelihoods.....

Three thousand people from La

Linea legally work in Gibraltar

and are protesting to their own

Government that the border re-

strictions are threatening their

Endangered species

The coracle fishermen, who for

generations have pliednintended

victims of attempts to save the

Israeli warplanes bombarded

Hezbollah militia positions at

Baalbek in eastern Lebanon after

Israel's senior commander in

south Lebanon was killedby a

Nigeria's fragile transition from

dictatorship to democracy was in

jeopardy after Olu Falae refused

to accept the victory of his oppo-

nent for the presidency....Page 12

With tensions mounting in rela-

tions, Madeleine Albright, the US

Secretary of State, and her Chi-

nese hosts will engage in tough

...Page 11

Israeli revende

roadside bomb...

Nigeria crisis

Tough talking

taiking today

Kosovo fighting

Rape trials row

Baroness Jay, Minister for Women, was last night at the centre of a row over Government plans to clamp down on women's sexual history being admitted as evi-

The Home Secretary will be back at his desk today after disappearing for 72 hours at the height of

the controversy over the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry Page 1

Palace dismayed

Straw returns

Buckingham Palace is dismayed by the limited role that the Queen will play in the opening of the Scottish Parliament.... Page I

Playboys

The first lifestyle magazine for professional footballers has been launched, filled with glossy advertisements for fast cars, country mansions and yachts...... Page 3

Boxing fan killed

Aboxing fan died after falling under the wheels of a coach while trying to escape fighting that broke out after a Commonwealth title bout. Violence raged around the ambulancemen as they tried to save the man's life......Page 5

Broadcaster hurt

The award-winning broadcaster Sheena McDonald remained in a critical condition yesterday after

Serb forces massed in their thousands in and around Kosovo as the province was engulfed in new fighting that threatens to shatter being hit by a police van Page 6 the fragile peace process. Page 14

£6,200 is the cost of old jokes

Dennis the Menace and the Bash Street Kids were mere twinkles in the cartoonist's eye when the first edition of the Beano was published in 1938. Lord Snooty is the only relic to have lasted into the 1990s and only the boy aristocrat and his pals could now afford the original edition, which sold at auction for £6,200, the largest sum paid for a comic in Britain...... Page 1



Cartoonist puts his stamp on Jenner

A SPECIAL millennium stamp by The Times cartoonist Peter Brookes, portraying the discovery of vaccination by Edward Jenner is to go on sale tomorrow (Mark Henderson

The design, which will feature on the 20p second class stamp, is released as part of the $Patient's\ Tale$, the third issue in the Royal Mail's millennium collection, Entitled DrJenner's Vaccination, it tells the 18th century story of how the Gloucestershire doctor discovered a medical advance

which has saved millions of lives worldwide.

Dr Jenner naticed that the milkmaids in his village who had caught cowpox never went on to contract the deadly smallpox virus, one of the biggest killers of the day. He took vaccine (derived from the Latin vacca) from a cowpox sore and injected it into a boy, who developed an immunity

The Brookes design incorporates all the elements of the story. Dr Jenner and James Phipps, his patient, are portrayed in silhouctte in the markings of a cow, which is milked by an immune maid, It also evokes his popular Nature Notes series, which is published in The Times on Saturdays, Mr Brookes said: "It is a great honour for a mere cartoonist. It's wonderful to be involved as there is a great galaxy of artists, illustrators and designers working

Mirror Bid: Trinity, the UK's largest regional newspaper group, took the next step in its bid to acquire the Mirror Group by tabling an offer worth more than El billion over the ... Page 48 weekend ... Mobile Float: Cable & Wireless is considering a flotation of One-2

.Page 48 Comeback: Stephen Hinchcliffe, the disgraced Sheffield businessmen who has been charged with ten counts of corruption by the Serious Fraud Office, is trying to revive his career by making children's car-.... Page 48 Rate Cut: The City is optimistic that the Bank of England will again cut rates when it concludes its monthly

monetary policy committee later

this week

Hidden hero: In a quiet corner of Guildford, Surrey, lives Henk Huffener, an embarrassed hero who saved dozens of Jews from the Nazis. Grace Bradberry inter-

Fabulously happening: Every five years or so, London Fashion Week is supposedly about to meet its Maker. But despite all the handwringing, the event is still very

much alive. Lisa Armstrong re-

..Pages 16, 17

Flower power: Susan MacDonald offers adice on what to buy for Mothering Sunday Page 40

Thumbs down: London's Gate Theaire is celebrating its 20th birthday with a new production of Cervantes's Don Quixote that is totally inept and incoherent, writes Benedict Nightingale

Road show: The touring stage version of the television hit Goodness Gracious Me proves that Sanjeev Bhaskar and his colleagues are mainstream talents.....Page IS Hollywood hero: Jeff Bridges has never bothered to pursue the life of a real movie star; all he cares about is making interesting movies like Page 19 Concert report: The Russian pianist Nikolai Demidenko plays a pro-

Arlington Road gramme of Beethoven at the Barbican in London but the atmosphere

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

Meet Michael Corder

the choreographer

make it all happen

for the Royal Ballet

dog any imitators of

One Man and his Dog

Why copyright law could

who is going to

ARTS

LAW

Football: Arsenal's charge towards the FA Carling Premiership title suffered a sethack when a late equaliser by Hamann deprived them of a win at Newcastle United... Page 25 Motor rallying: Colin McRae justified his surprising switch to Ford by capturing the Safari Rally, the team's first victory in the event for Page 26 20 years.

Tennis: Greg Rusedski failed at the final hurdle in the Guardian Direct tournament, Richard Krajicek emerging the winner Page 27 ice hockey: Manchester Storm are harbouring similar European ambitions to their footballing counterparts in the city after securing the Sekonda Superleague title. Page 27 Rugby union: Two tries by Inga Tuigamala helped Newcastle overcome Saracens, the holders, in their Cup quarter-finalPage 34 Racing: Richard Dunwoody gave a timely reminder of his talents in winning the Racing Post Chase at Kempton and can now look forward to the Cheltenham Festival

1, 13, 7, 15, 38, 43. Bonus: 47 There were no outright winners and Wednesday's jackpot will be an estimated £13 million rollover. Thirteen tickets won £177,637 each for five numbers and the bonus; 913 won £1.580 for five numbers: 51.885 won £61 for four and 1,018.247 won EIO for three.

with renewed confidence... Page 37

Preview: Tribe UK offers insit into the lives orf young peop (BBC2, 11.15pm). Review: The Builders raises the docusoap to an unexplored level of pointlessness, says Paul Hoggart......Pages 46.47.

The Commons interest Britain needs both Houses of Parliament to become more vigorous inistitutions. A serious reform of the House of Lords can be the catalyst & for a long overdue modernisation of the House of Commons. Page 21

Good Europeans

New Europe, the group that launches today to put the case against joining EMU, provides an intellectual home for people of all parties and

Take the high road

The pageantry of monarchy might seem out of step with the modernism of new Labour; but it serves as a buckle for the Union and an emblem of continuity.....

WILLIAM REES-MOGG I do not know whether the millennium prayer is more offensive for its clumsiness, for the meretricious use of fragments of real prayers, or for the mind-numbing combination of vacuity of meaning with intellectual dishonesty......Page 20

PETER RIDDELL

Failure to join the euro in the next Parliament would be a huge setback for Blair's strategy and would force a reassessment of his whole foreign policy.....

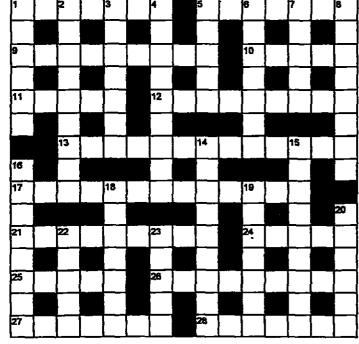
anna Blundy

To watch the increasingly frenzied race to be President of Russia, you would be forgiven for getting the impression that the job was some-

Lady Pansy Lamb, Writer; Collin Purbrook, jazz pianist; Clive Butler, surgeon: Duncan Mitchell, sociology professor; Sir Gordon Jones, Yorkshire Water

Nato and Kosovo; National Changeover Plan; end of subsidy for live classical music, art fakes; nuclear power; rose-ringed parakeets.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 21,039



- 1 False claim he made to be tsar (7). 5 Fail to go off and produce a report
- 9 Reckless prosecutor about to take on junior counsel (9).
- 10 A president's first dance (5). 11 Arab's son mainly employed in
- sound reproduction (5). 12 Northern state nominates new assembly (9).
- 13 Certain people display shock after crew's dance (9.4). 17 Remain neutral, or restrain the
- criminal? (3.2.3.5). 21 Stimulating foretaste of cooked
- 24 Wrongfully seize old city, cap-tured by American power (5).
- 25 Mature insect a long way back in the past (5).

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 21,038 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will each receive a £20

book token.

 \mathcal{C}

26 Idle talk's holding back queer with company, sire (9). 27 First-class teachers rejected out

side one's country (7). 28 A couple of unknowns agent disposed of in Asian river (7).

- Unassuming, as Mussorgsky was Back of chair used in clubs, luxuri-
- ous and well-padded (9). Put in fish that's going rotten (7).
- 4 Pet need of striker in union? (4-5). Fruit produced by bishops, perhaps, outside see (5).
 6 Cardinal takes drink with mili-
- tary men (7). 7 Northerner's home game
- dier turned up first (5).

 8 Like taped music some remember
- as a blessing (8)-14 Money collected from party member without hesitation (9). 15 River worker secures share of
- profits as performer (9). 16 Spies act strangely, recreating from reality (8). 18 One joining alliance with part-
- ners in communities (7). 19 Time in special cell - but one isn't
- charged (7)-20 Excellent food brought in for each person (6). 22 Seafood pie originally served

fresh before noon (5).

23 Goody-goody appearing in main Times Two Crossword, page 48 9336 407 505

A Car reports by fax

Sun sets: 5.39 pm London 5.39 pm to 6.44 am Bristol 5.50 pm to 6.54 am Edinburgh 5.46 pm to 7.03 am Manchester 5.46 pm to 5.56 am Penzance 6.03 pm to 7.05 am

NEWSPAPERS

SUPPORT RECYCLING

Recycled paper made up 46 03% of the raw material



Dut return later. Heart silv winds, Mar XD (corr).

US E England, Central S England: well and windy but mid. Heavy morning rain will ease for a while but ratum later Fresh SW winds, locally strong at fret near Channel coest. Max 13C (SSF).

I E Anglia, E stidlends, E England. W Mid-lender a duil, wet start but heavy rain will soon ease Brighter and drier in the afternoon with occasional and an experiment of the second of the comment of the second sease Brighter and cher in the afterhoon with occa-sional sunny spells and only a small chence of a shower or two. Steader rain reburning after dark Moderate W winds. Max 13C (56F).

Channel Islands, S. W. England, S. Waless, mild but overtast and wet with hill and coestal fog patches. Becoming dry for a while in the afternoon but can will reburn. Windy with a fresh to strong SW breeze Max 12C (54F).

The Wales, N. W. England, Lako District, late of Max, Central N, N. E. England, N. Iretend: a cloudy, well start. Overright rain clearing then mild

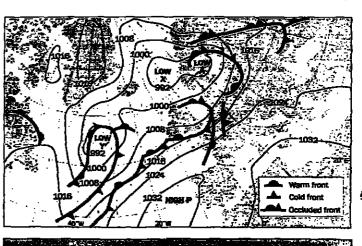


as extrements highest day temp. Guernsey, 13C (55F); lowest day temp. Glascar-and. 3C (37F); rainfallf, Strathellan, Perth and Kinross, 1.53in; sunshine, Haat-





Changes to the chart below from moon: low A moves slowly east and fills; low X will till in situ; low Y runs east and deepens; high P is slow moving



PM 23:08 13:32 21:03 TODAY
Aberdeen
Auomnouth
Bedfast
Curdiff
Devanoport
Dover
Dover
Falmouth
Greenock
Herwich
Holyhead
Hull (Albert
Bhacombe
Herg's Lynn
Leth
Leth 034 639 1027 625 522 1033 11-12 453 11-51 951 548 526 546 157 18:03 16:55 17:51 15:25 18:49 23:06 23:10 6.7 3.8 5.3 1.8 4.5 6.2 4.5 12.1 9.9 22:51 18:08 15:25

All times GMT, Heights in metres

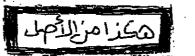


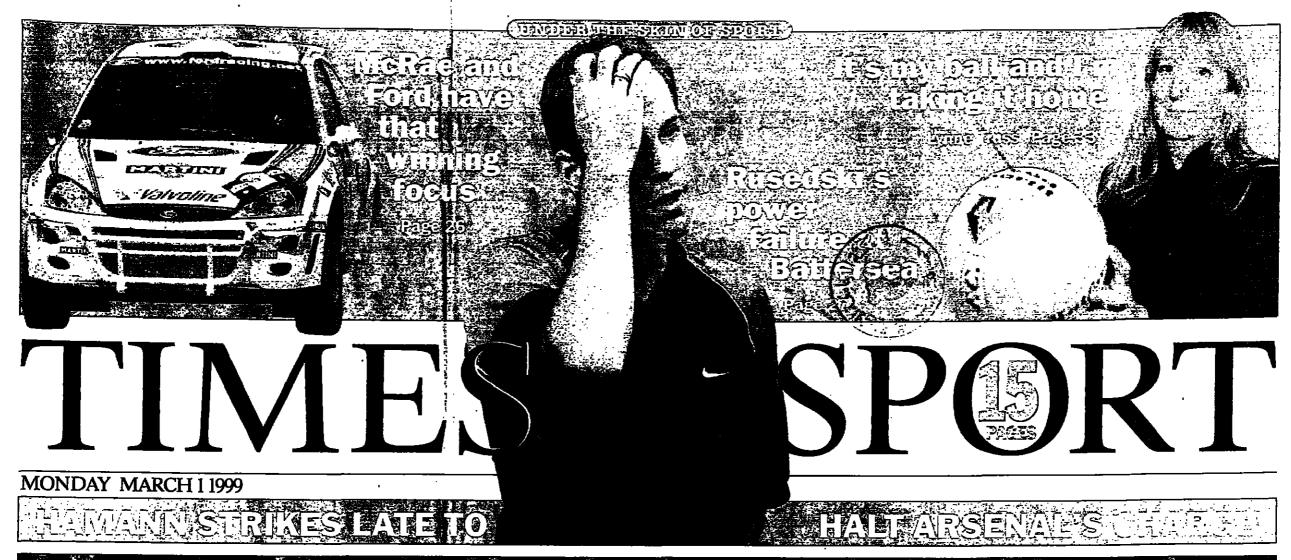
Total number of lives saved so far this year: Total number of lifeboat launches so far this year: Cost to RNLI per day: Cost to taxpayer: To make a donation, telephone:

171 £222,000 £0 0800 543210



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Hamann withstands the challenge of Adams, the Arsenal central defender, to power Newcastle United's equalising goal past Seaman at St James' Park yesterday and add another twist to the FA Carling Premiership title race. Photograph: John Giles

Le Saux faces trial by television

GRAEME LE SAUX. Chelsea's England defender, could face trial by television after referee Paul Durkin admitted that he would have sent him off had he seen his alleged elbow attack on Robbie Fowler. Durkin missed the off-the-ball incident during Chelsea's 2-1 win over Liverpool at Stamford Bridge on Saturday and will not be including it in his report to the Football Association

The official, from Portland, has since seen the clash on television, in which Le Saux appeared to elbow Fowler on the back of the head. "I can assure everyone that if I had seen it Le Saux would have been sent off," he said. "But neither I nor my assistant referee saw it. What happens now is down to the FA."

The FA has used video evidence against players before, such as when John Hartson kicked Eyal Berkovic during a training session at West Ham United, and Le Saux could face disciplinary action.

The BBC will provide the FA with a tape of the incident if asked. Steve Double, the FA spokesman, said: "It is an option while there is also the fourth official's match report to consider." The incident was the culmination of a running battle between Le Saux and the Liverpool striker.

Pressure starts to take toll on champions

By Oliver Holt FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

THEY fled the Tyneside gloom as quickly as they could last night. All but Dennis Bergkamp hightailed it out of St James' Park and headed for the airport and their flight back to London. Some of them meaned half-heartedly about the pitch, horribly heavy and devilishly rutted, but every Arsenal player mourned a more important piece of lost ground.

In other circumstances, perhaps, a hard-fought 1-1 draw with a Newcastle United side that is threatening a modest resurgence might not have been cause for despondency for Arsene Wenger and his side. but such is the pace that Manchester United, Chelsea and Arsenal have been setting at the top of the FA Carling Premiership as the chase for the title approaches its climax that the two points the champions dropped yesterday, courtesy of a late equaliser by Dietmar Hamann, acquired the air of a

significant setback. United, who rested three players in advance of their European Cup quarter-final first leg with Internazionale on Wednesday, squeezed past the desperate challenge of Southampion at Old Trafford to record their eighth win in ten unbeaten league games and maintain their four-point lead at the top of the table.

Cheisea, who seemed to have been dinging on to their own challenge like a boxer beginning to feel the effect of 100 many punches, defied those



Wenger: knows his team cannot afford mistakes

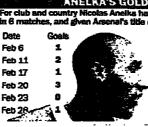
who doubt them with some invigorating football as they outplayed Liverpool at Stamford Bridge. Those results heaped the pressure on Arsenal, the only one of the trio who have no European fixtures to dilute their commitment, to continue their own remarkable recent sequence of results in the North East and stay in touch.

They seemed to have succeeded when Nicolas Anelka, who is so full of confidence that he seems to think he is going to score every time he gets the ball, claimed his sixth goal in four league games nine minunes before half-time, when he capitalised on successive mis-

UNITED IN THE TITLE CHASE

ce their last defeat - at home to Middlesbrough on De as out of a possible

100	P	w	D	Ł	F	A	Pis
65.5	MANCHESTER UNITED 28	16	9	3	63	29	57
*50	(Last 10 matches)	8	2	0	27	6	26
Ê	CHELSEA 27	14	11	2	41	22	53
	(Last 10 matches)	6	3	1	13	5	21,
()	ARSENAL 27	13	11	3	35	13	50
_	(Last 10 matches)	7	3	0	18	3	24
Ħ	ASTON VILLA 27	12	8	7	38	31	44
	(Last 10 matches)	3	2	Б	11		11



England O France 2 Arsenal & Leicester ()

takes by Steve Howey and Nikos Dabizas to take the ball round Shay Given and slide it calmly into an open net. In the second half, though, the intensity of the struggle to keep pace with United and Chelsea

seemed to take its toll. Arsenal had conceded only two goals in nine Premiership games before yesterday, but the third condemned them to a nervous finish and a sevenpoint deficit to make up on United.

"We were in front and we could have finished the game off in the first half," Wenger said. "In the second half, we did not seem to come out

Manchester United 1 Arsenal 1 Arsenai 2 Sheffield Utd 1 wcastle 1 Arsenal 1 enough and take the game to

the feeling that Newcastle were dangerous, but it was as if we were content with 1-0 and we lost our offensive fluency. "We have dropped two points but we know that it is

them. We did not really have

not easy to get three points here. Of course, we knew before the game that it would be important to win, especially with the way the other results have gone this weekend. But there is still a long way to go and everybody else will drop points, too.

"The only problem we have now is that we, more than the other two, cannot afford any

mistakes. We are still in a good position and we have a game in hand, but it will be a hard battle."

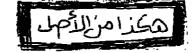
Arsenal's uncharacteristic surrender of a lead cast a shadow over what had been until then a superbly disciplined, resolute performance. Martin Keown and Tony Adams, the heart of a defence that has conceded only 13 goals all season. were heartless in the subjugation of Alan Shearer, unyielding in their domination of the England centre forward. Patrick Vieira, too, was outstanding at the hub of the side, leading the way in the pressing that joited the home team out of its commendable attempt to play neat, passing football.

Despite the greater flamboyance of United and Chelsea, the suspicion remains that Arsenal have the best balance. the most resilience for the Il-game run-in. The combination of their near-unbreachable defence and the explosiveness of the partnership between Bergkamp and Anelka is close to irresistible.

Once, perhaps, Rund Gullit might have been in the thick of it himself, but when he was asked for his opinion on the latest twist in the title race, the Newcastle manager offered a wistful smile. "I have other sorrows now," he said. "Too many worries to be interested in that." Like the joys of others. Gullit spread his sorrow around on Tyneside last night.

> Match report, page 29 Inter showdown, page 31





Higgins on course in title defence

BY PHIL YATES

JOHN HIGGINS, winner of the Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge last year, was on course to make a successful title established a 6-2 lead over Ronnie O'Sullivan at the Assembly Rooms in Derby yesterday.

Since making his career breakthrough by becom-ing Grand Prix champion at the same venue in October 1994. Higgins has matured into a fearsome opponent. He has figured in 26 finals, lifted 13 trophies and amassed over £1.7mil-

lion in prize-money.
This maturity came to the fore when, earlier this month, he recovered from an 8-6 deficit to defeat Ken Doherty 10-8 in the final of the Benson and Hedges Masters at Wembley and again on Saturday when he edged Doherty 6-5 in

"I want to win every tournament 1 enter these days. " Higgins said. "It becomes a habit and you o'Sullivan, beaten 9-8

by Higgins in the final last year, entered the mid-session interval at 2-2, but generally lacked the sharpness he displayed in beating Jimmy White 6-4 in their semi-final.

A run of 65 enabled Higgins to win the fifth frame and he moved into a 4-2 lead with a 62 break in the sixth. O'Sullivan did not score a point in the seventh, but should have salvaged the eighth.

After fluking a snooker with just the colours remaining, he missed the yellow and Higgins cleared to pink to carry a commanding advantage into the final session. SEMI-FINALS: R O'Sullivan (Eng) bt J White (Eng) 6-4, J Haggers (Scot) bt K Doherty (Ire) 6-5

☐ Kelly Fisher, Pontefract, completed a 4-1 victory over Julie Gillespie in the final of the national women's championship with a break of 53.

MOTOR RALLYING

Ford bask in glow of McRae's victory

FROM JEREMY HART IN NAIROBI

GRILLED under the Kenyan sun and dusted by the rooster tails of red Rift Valley dirt thrown up by a hundred cars, the African spectators watching the Safari Rally this weekend knew exactly who they wanted to win. "Mike Tyson" they sung in unison.

Wrong sport, right idea. The winner yesterday of the world's toughest rally was about as predictable as the pugilist

Just a month after being branded pariahs for using an illegal water pump when their orange, blue and white Focus made its debut in Monte Carlo. Ford's humble pie was turned into champagne by rallying's £6 million man. Colin McRae romped across Kenya's rocky bush to win by a country mile and put a smile back on the faces of his team. as well as one of horror on

those of his rivals. "Colin is now my greatest threat for the championship." Tommi Makinen, the winner of five of the previous six rallies, said. "It is great for the sport to see Colin win, but worrying for everyone else." More so after Makinen, who finished second, was subsequent-

WANDERERS (final day of four): Eng-

ENGLAND A travel to Cape Town to-

day for the concluding match of their

tour, against a strong President's XI at

Newlands, with their unbeaten record

reinforced by a comprehensive win

over Gauteng yesterday.

Having been forced to follow-on on

Saturday, Gauteng, with nine wickets

remaining, still had hopes of saving the game. But once Adam Bacher had

land A beat Gauteng by 10 wickets

help when his Mitsubishi suffered a puncture on Friday. The championship leader claimed that the spectators were more of a hindrance than

was seven minutes. At the start of the final leg, south of Nairobi, he was almost a quarter of an hour ahead of Makinen, the three-times world champion, but the Finn was on a charge and McRae had to nurse a sick engine through 200 miles of the harshest

stuff," a twitchy Malcolm Wilson, whose M-Sport outfit in Cumbria has built the first winning Ford in 18 months, said. "We told Colin to take it easy and thankfully he and the car held on."

Aiready out before the final stages yesterday were Richard

ous going for a win." the Scot

McRae's winning margin

stages in the world.
"It was heart-in-the-mouth

Burns, the early leader, whose Subaru ground to a halt with a broken suspension, and Freddy Loix, of Belgium, who crashed his Mitsubishi at 100mph. Little wonder that McRae was uncharacteristically apprehensive as he bounced over the last few jarring miles. "I have never been as nerv-



McRae, left, and Nicky Grist, his co-driver, are weighed down by the spoils of victory

said. "I was listening out for every noise coming from the car. I only relaxed after the second-to-last stage. The final one was just a couple of kilo-

metres long. Within an hour of his first win for Ford, McRae was predicting possible victories in the Acropolis Rally in Greece in the summer and perhaps earlier. 'The fact we brought a new car to the Safari, the hardest and toughest rally of all, and won is fantastic." McRae said.

Gauteng collapse against Cosker's spin

From Thrasy Petropolous in Johannesburg

CRICKET

knocked off the runs in less than three

overs and won with over a session to

After Graeme Swann's spell of four

wickets for one run to polish off the tail

in the Gauteng first innings on Satur-

day, it was the turn of his spin partner,

with a win, but now we have found the car is very strong and fast. Third in Sweden and first here shows that. The rest of the season is now looking

Beneficiaries of Makinen's disqualification were the three Toyota drivers. Didier Auriol. Carlos Sainz and Ian Duncan. was Toyota who protested about Makinen's outside assistance in what was seen as revenge for the Finn escaping punishment in Australia last year, when he jumped the start of a stage and went on to win the title. Tommi did something wrong and it is only fair to be punished for it."

Fifth was McRae's rookie team-mate, Petter Solberg, of Norway, Drafted in to replace the injured Thomas Radstrom, Solberg is regarded as

a future champion. For the second year in succession, SEAT gained the final championship point with sixth

Cosker, to shine yesterday, completing a well deserved five-wicket haul as he exploited a wearing surface.

Andre Seymore and Derek Crookes, who are in South Africa's provisional

squad of 19 for the World Cup, both fell to Cosker and the lower-order players

☐ The England Under-19 team made a

poor effort at scoring 221 from 43 overs

to win the second one-day internation-

al at Westpaci Frust Park and were

bowled out for 136, allowing New Zea-

were quickly swept aside.

land to square the series.

Journeymen emerge to contest jackpot

From John Hopkins, golf correspondent in carlsbad, california

WEEKEND golfers the world over were playing for money yesterday but none, not even those at Sunningdale where the bets sometimes resemble the loans to a third-world country, was playing for anything like as much money as Andrew Magee and Jeff Maggert. These two Americans were playing one another over 36 holes here at La Costa for the biggest golfing prize of their lives. Money talks at this resort, a hedonist's play-ground, but it has seldom talked as loudly as this.

At stake was \$1 million, the prize for the winner of the final of the Andersen Consulting World Match Play Championship. It is a huge amount of money and when the total purse of \$5 million was announced it was expected that men such as Tiger Woods. David Duval or Emie Els would feature in the final. But one of the striking features of this event that started last Wednesday with 64 of the leading 65 players in the world in the field, has been the culling

of the seeds. Maggert and Magee were two of the less fancied competitors. Magee has won four events in his 15-year professional career and Maggert, who turned professional in 1986, only one - and that in unusual circumstances. He took the 1993 Walt Disney Oldsmobile in Florida by holing out on a green that was illuminated by car headlights.

Maggert is 24th in the world rankings and Magee who was born in Paris and has Scottish and Irish antecedents. fiftieth. They have one Ryder Cup appearance between them and neither has won a tournament for four years.

"One meececeelllionnn dol-Illiars," Magee, an engaging and laconic man, who chipped in to defeat John Huston in his semi-final, said. "I like money. Money is the motivating factor. I never strove to be No I in the world and if I'm not No I after 15 years out here, I'm

probably never going to be." Maggert gives the impression of being tightly in control of himself at all times. His golf

swing is firm and he does not hit the ball all that far nor all that high. He overpowers courses by stealth rather than by the full frontal attack of, say, Greg Norman or Woods. "Winning the golf tournament is going to mean a lot more to me than the million dollars." Maggert, who was 35 nine days ago, said, even though he has never won anything like \$1 million in an entire season, never mind one week.

Maggert was the first to strike in the final, parting the opening hole to win it and then making birdie at the sec-ond to take a two-hole lead. which was contrary to the evidence of the week. Maggert. usualty a slow starter, was three down after II holes of his semi-final against Steve Pate and had slipped back to be two down to Magee after IS holes



Maggert has won only one tournament on the US tour

of the final. He has invariably played the second nine strongly. He had won 24 holes in all before the final, 14 on the homeward nine, which he had

played in ten under par. "When you get down in matchplay, you have to go out and make something happen," Maggert said. "In strokeplay, three strokes behind is not a significant margin. I can make an eagle and the man I'm chasing can bogey. But in matchplay if you win a hole by one stroke or three strokes it doesn't matter. Three down is a significant margin."
RESULTS (at United States): Semi-finals:
J Magget bi S Pate 1 hole: A Magee bt J
Husion 3 and 1.

chipped Dean Cosker to mid-wicket AN EXCLUSIVE COMPETITION

and watched Darren Maddy take a

good diving catch, they had no answer

to the combination of Cosker's left-arm

spin and the pace of Darren Thomas

and collapsed from 140 for one to 211 all

out against the Glamorgan pair. Eng-

land, A. needing only 27 to win.

WIN A VIP 1



he Cheltenham Festival, the highlight of the National Hunt racing calendar, is just two weeks away and The Times has teamed up with leading brewers and Festival sponsors Guinness to offer readers the chance to win a pair of VIP tickets to the National Hunt Festival on Tuesday, March 16. The lucky winner and a guest will travel to the racecourse in style by helicopter from Battersea heliport.

THE WINNER'S DAY:

before the race so they will have plenty

of time to prepare for the big day.

• they arrive by helicopter at Chelthenham racecourse in time for coffee and drinks before lunch

 enjoy VIP treatment in the Festival Suite in the main grandstand, including pints of cool Guinness and afternoon tea

 return flight to Battersea by helicopter The winner will be notified a week



HOW TO ENTER

Simply call our competition hotline below before midnight on Thursday, March 4 with your answer to the following question:

Which jockey won last year's Guinness Arkle Chase?

a) Richard Dunwoody

b) Norman Williamson c) Tony McCoy

The winner will be chosen at random from all correct entries received. Normal TNL competition rules apply.

1550 122 154 from the Irish Republic

CHANGING TIMES

Sri Lanka find third captain

SRI LANKA were compelled to name a replacement captain twice within a few hours yesterday after Arjuna Ranatunga was ruled out of this week's Asian Test championship match against Pakistan with a hamstring injury.

in Ranatunga's absence Aravinda de Silva was named to lead the side in the final round-robin Test starting in Lahore on Thursday. Then he himself had to withdraw through injury on the final day of the game against India in Colombo yesterday. Hashan Tillekeratne has now

been named captain. Sri Lanka will face Pakistan without many of their key players. Apart from Ranatunga and de Silva, Chaminda Vaas is being rested while Sanath Jayasuriya and Mutti-ah Muralitharan are injured.

Sachin Tendulkar scored his nineteenth Test century yesterday to remain unbeaten on 124 as India and Sri Lanka ground out a draw in the second match of the triangular series. India reached 306-5 after being 59-1 overnight.

Scoreboard, page 39

Cullinan's double celebration

A MAGNIFICENT careerbest double century by Daryll Cullinan put South Africa in an impregnable position against New Zealand on the second day of the first Test in

During nearly eleven hours of monumental concentration, Cullinan scored 246 not out, his seventh Test century, surpassing his previous best of 168, scored against

West Indies last month.

Starting the day in the strong position of 245 for two, South Africa ended on 562 for five. It was their highest score against New Zealand, beating the 524 for eight they made at Wellington's Basin Reserve in

Cullinan, who hit 25 fours and two sixes, is just nine runs short of the highest individual inning against New Zealand by a South African — which belongs to Jackie McGlew scored in the same 1953 game.

Hansie Cronje, the South Africa captain, decided not to declare and almost certainly plans to bat just once in the match! New Zealand must score \$63 just to avoid the

Atherton in line for World Cup recall

BY RICHARD HORSON

MICHAEL ATHERTON, omitted from the recent Carl-ton & United one-day series in Australia, is expected to be recalled when England, the host country, become the first of the nine Test-playing nations to announce their World Cup

squad today. David Graveney, the chairman of selectors, has con-firmed that a list of 15 names will be released at Lord's this

With a series of fitness tests organised before departing via Pakistan for a triangular tournament in Sharjah on March 29 — effectively a World Cup warm-up — England can still make alterations before the selection deadline of March 31. This will be especially relevant for Atherton and Graham

Thorpe, who have back problems. -

It is unlikely that anybody outside the initial squad of 30 will feature in the tournament, which degins on May 14. The selection of Atherton, with a one-day international average of 35.11 from 54 games, would reflect the need for somebody who can complement the more



E BOWLS: Carol Ashby, who reached the women's world indoor singles final last April, took the England Under-31 singles title at Exeter, when she held off a tremendous fightback from Debbie Talbot to win the final, 21-20. Ashby. the 1998 senior champion, looked home and dry when she led 15-3 after 11 ends, but Talbot, who has been playing on the crown greens of Yorkshire since she was 12, but now plays on the flat at Barnsley Metrodome during winter, levelled the scores at 15-15, after 18. Talbot took the lead at 20-19, but Ashby coolly drew two perfect bowls on the 25th to edge home.

SPORT IN BRIEF

■ BASKETBALL: England's reputation as one of the most improving nations in Europe was reflected in the narrow margin of their defeat by Israel in the semi-finals of the European championship on Saturday (Nicholas Harling writes). "If the free throws had gone in, the game would have been ours," Laszio Nemeth, the coach, said after Israel's 79-76 victory in Tel Aviv.

GOLF: Karrie Webb, of Australia, broke the US LPGA scoring record by three strokes yesterday when she finished on 262, 26 under par, to win the Australian Ladies Masters at the Royal Pines course, on the Gold Coast, Webb's score also bettered Laura Davies's European Tour record of 25 under par. set at the 1995 Irish Open in Dublin. Janice Moodie, of Scotland, finished second, ten shots behind Webb.

■ BADMINTON: Simon Archer and Joanne Goode produced their finest sequence of performances as a partnership and boosted their prospects for the All England championships in two weeks' time when they reached the final of the World Grand Prix championships in Brunei yesterday, only to fall 15-6, 15-9 against the South Koreans, Kim Dong Moon and Ra

SAILING: Marc Thiercelin, of France, was expected to reach the Falkland Islands yesterday on board Somewhere, his damaged Open 60, which was dismasted last week as he was leading the Around Alone Race (Edward Gorman writes). Thiercelin is determined to finish the race and plans are afoot to fly a new mast and sails out to the islands from France on

informative:

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Interest paid monthly		% p.a.		% p.s.
£1 to £499	3.00%	2.96%	2.50%	2.47%
2500 to 22,499	3.50%	3.45%	3.00%	2.96%
£2,500 and over	3.75%	3.89%	3.25%	3.20%
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22,500 to £4,999	3.50%	3.46%	3.25%	3.21%
£5,000 to £49,899	5.50%	5.39%	5.00%	4.91%
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Scoring

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Dubious tactics fail to bring down Krajicek

By Julian Muscat, tennis correspondent

RICHARD KRAJICEK could afford to be magnanimous. A tactic of dubious legitimacy from Greg Rusedski had trans-formed the Briton's fortunes to carry him within two points of the match before Krajicek, the better player throughout this final of the Guardian Direct Cup, regrouped to collect the sixteenth title of his career. Rusedski himself would

have savoured the quality of service that had swept Krajicek to the brink of victory. The hard part was complete Krajicek merely had to hold serve, as he had throughout the match, for two more games to cash the \$128,000 (£80,000) winner's cheque. But after another ace, his 26th of the match, took him to 15-0, Rusedski delved into a murky world.

In mock protestation, Rusedski summoned a ball-girl, Victoria Lister, to rally with Krajicek, the move plainly aimed at fracturing his opponent's concentration. It worked. Detained, to much crowd banter by a 14-stroke rally, which was comfortably the longest in the match. Krajicek then resumed — only to lose ten of the next 11 points. The two players were thus locked together at 4-4, with every prospect of a tie-break to settle a match that was firmly in Krajicek's grasp.

Krajicek's expression, when he then trailed 30-0, on serve, in the next game, told a very different story to the one that he would tell at the contest's conclusion. in the end, Krajicek, who rallied to lead 6-5, broke a flagging Rusedski to win 7-6, 6-7, 7-5 after two hours and six minutes of largely uninspiring tennis.

There was a hint of sarcasm in his voice when, in the postmatch interview on court, he said: "The next time Greg is

serving me off the court I know what to do: just get a ball-girl to go out and play." Later, while suggesting that Rusedski might have indulged the crowd when he trailed 40-0, rather than 15-0, Krajicek blamed himself for the lapse in concentration. "It was a rookie mistake on my part," he said. "I thought it would be OK but I shouldn't

bave done it" He also revealed that, in those difficult moments, he drew on the memory of his compatriot, Menno Oosting, who was killed in a car crash last week. "I wanted to win it for Menno so badly," he said. Krajicek, seeded No 4, attended Oosting's funeral in Son, near Eindhoven, on Saturday morning before returning to London to beat Thomas

Johansson in the semi-finals. Rusedski, for his part, made light of an incident which, in contrast to the smiling cartoon character he had portrayed all week, revealed a rare glimpse of his cold, calculating mind.
"It is no big deal," he insisted.
"I have had it happen to me before." However, when pressed to elaborate, the man with a memory bordering on encyclopaedic could not remember.

Williams prevails over Mauresmo

The gambit employed by

SERENA WILLIAMS, of the United States, clinched her first WTA Tour title when she best Amelie Mauresmo, of France, 6-2, 3-6, 7-6, in the Paris Open final. The 17-year-old was too strong for Mauresmo, who had won through after tough matches against Martina Hingis, the world No 1, and Dominique Van Roost, of

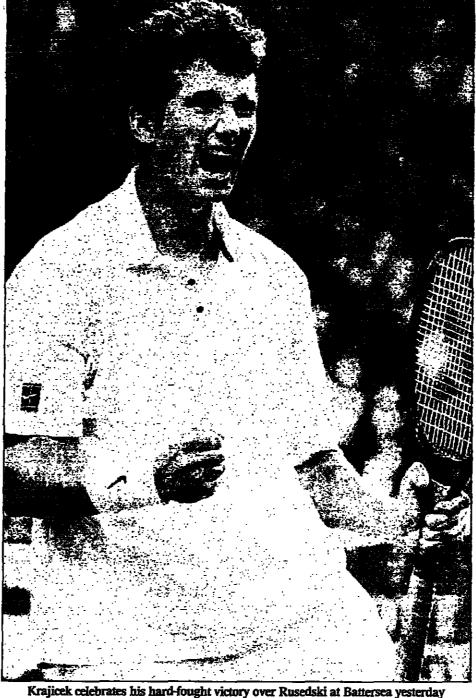
Rusedski, seeded No 3, was far from unique. Boris Becker and Andre Agassi have used it, as did Goran Ivanisevic when hopelessly outserved by Mark Philippoussis in the 1997 final at Queen's. Yet none resorted to it when their matches remained so delicately balanced. Rusedski's calculated act was almost certainly prompted by his unbri-dled desire to triumph before a domestic audience - just as he mistakenly insisted on playing Wimbledon with one sound ankle eight months ago.

There was no doubt that Krajicek deserved his victory. In the opening set he stayed with Rusedski during the Briton's only spell of dominant serving. The ensuing tiebreak, the twelfth since they first sourced up of which they was a source of the source of t first squared up six years ago. was effectively settled when Krajicek conjured a stinging backhand cross-court pass to reach set point with his service

From that point Rusedski ap-peared to labour. To his credit, he pulled the second set from the fire when, in another tie-break, Krajicek double-faulted when seemingly in the ascendant. Opportunities were precious; when they came, they were usually neutralised by heavy serving. In that respect, Krajicek

gave Rusedski a taste of his own medicine he dished out 30 aces to the Briton's ten.

Rusedski and Tim Henman now head to California for the Newsweek Champions Cup. where Rusedski must defend 337 ranking points for reaching the final 12 months ago. Despite a stop-start first two months of the season, he has scrambled well; he should remain at No 10 when the world rankings are updated this morning. Henman is ex-



British pair double the interest

GREG RUSEDSKI gained a measure of compensation for his singles defeat by Richard Krajicek when he combined with Tim Henman to win the doubles event yesterday (Julian Muscat writes). The Great Britain pairing won in straight sets over Wayne Ferreira, of South Africa, and Byron Black, of Zimbabwe. To the delight of a vocal

Henman captured Black's service midway through the opening set to secure the only break in the match. They then rallied from 3-6 down in the second-set tie-break to win five successive points, and with them, the match, 6-3, 7-6. It was the first time that the two Britons have contested a

doubles tournament. Rusedski and Henman used the event to prepare for

Great Britain's Davis Cup tie, against the United States, in Birmingham in April, when they are expected to renew their alliance in the doubles rubber. Rusedski dropped service over the four matches he and Henman

played here. Henman, whose service was captured just once, said: "I think we have surprised ourselves a little bit."

Kleinendorst standing by Storm troopers

Alan Lee reports on the ice hockey coach who has transformed the fortunes of Britain's biggest club

anchester's sig-nificant minoriing thousands for whom there is now more to sport than Old Trafford, will be relieved to learn that the eloquent American who has given them an arresting new identity intends to finish what he started. On the morning after the biggest and most influential club in British ice hockey officially became the best, Kurt Kleinendorst was already planning new hori-

in the control of the

zons for Manchester Storm. Europe is one challenge to conquer, the nurturing of Brit-ish talent another, and Kleinendorst wants to stay and see it through. The Minnesotan arrived two years ago when playing inadequacy was threatening to vanquish the grand vision in Europe's largest indoor venue. His contract as coach and general manager has only a one-year option remaining, but Kleinendorst had words of reassurance for Storm's phenomenal support.

"I am happy and settled here and I have no plans to move on," he said yesterday. There is a lot more to be achieved and it would take a special offer to get me away. I won't sort things out until the season is over, but I'm already thinking of next year."

Kleinendorst was at a Neil Diamond concert on Saturday night and emerged to hear that Cardiff Devils forlorn pursuit of his team had ended with a 5-4 defeat at Bracknell. Manchester were champions of the Sekonda Superleague with three games still to play and the potentially dramatic fixture away to Cardiff last

night was an irrelevance. Manchester led the league virtually from first to last, losing only one of 19 home games within an otherwise fiercely competitive league. Their in-

heritance from Ayr, who have

fallen heavily from their grand-slam exploits of a year ago, seldom seemed in doubt but, with the most lavish facility and enviable support and sponsorship, their triumph is a necessary landmark in the

renaissance of the sport. The league trophy will be presented before the home match with Nottingham on Thursday and the force of the Storm can be measured by the fact that more than 10,000 seats have already been sold. Kleinendorst said, "one of those occasions when you come out and think wow, that was really something." One such night, three weeks ago.

can now be seen to have secured the title for Manchester. Their last home game with Cardiff came with the teams level on points and the Welsh club on a roll of seven wins. More than 12,000 saw Storm win 3-1, a victory as breathless as it was priceless. There are few men in this high-octane sport more inscrutable than Eleinendorst, but even his cool veneer collapsed with the lastminute goal that confirmed the win. "I don't show my feelings much but that was the pivotal night," he said. It was the first of six successive wins for Storm, the first in five defeats

out of six for Cardiff. Kleinendorst's assignment now is to exploit that support base and create a new generation of British players. Manchester have only one homegrown player on their staff. the supremely-gifted Jonathan Weaver, and Kleinendorst is not confident of finding more

like him. "Rinks would rather take money for public skating than encourage locals to learn hockey." he said. "We are doing all we can, with a junior section and a week-long hockey school in April, but it is the biggest

Scoring system beats Rolph

SUSAN ROLPH beat Katrin Meissner in both the 50 and 100 metres freestyle in their final outing of the winter World Cup season in Germany at the weekend, but lost the overall sprint freestyle title by an excruciating margin of two

points yesterday.
In the end, the severity of Rolph's defeats compared with those suffered by Meissner during a maximum of six point-scoring rounds of the 12-event series mattered more than the fact that the British champion had won seven races to five victories for the German.

The pair met in three rounds. Rolph winning the 100 metres each time. Meissner winning the 50 metres twice but losing to Rolph on Saturday for the first time, 25.06sec

1. L. , to

46.76 1.1 at the 7 7

175 3.5 From Craig Lord in Gelsenkirchen

to 25.23sec. That she beat Meissner, 26, over 50 metres gave Rolph, 20, a great sense of satisfaction and confirmed that her winter training programme is on course to produce the success she craves at the world short-course championships in Hong Kong next

Yesterday's win over 100 metres, in 54.33sec, just 0.06sec up on Meissner, further confirmed Rolph's superiority as a racer. However, two victories do not a World Cup title make, accounting for 20 points, against the 14 for two

second places that took the German to 99 points, two clear of the Briton's tally.

The rivals had started the weekend eight points apart, a gap that owed much to the third and fourth place finishes that Rolph suffered behind Chinese swimmers while nursing a heavy cold in Beijing in January. Meissner's worst finish was

second place. In hindsight, Rolph would have been wiser to have opted to compete at the Canadian round of the cup instead of Beijing, but then World Cup rules do not allow entries to be switched.

As such, Rolph collected the £3,300 runner-up prize, against Meissner's £6,500, but considered herself the better swimmer beyond the eccentricities of the scoring system.

Slough fail to disrupt Reading use home advantage nolder's march to title

RUSSELSHEIMER ruined Slough's hopes of breaking their stranglehold on the event when they cruised to their sixth successive title with a comfortable 7-1 win in the final of the European indoor championship in Glasgow yesterday (Cathy Harris writes).

Although the result was emphatic, Slough turned in a gritty performance and were rarely outplayed. The differ ence was in the superior skill and quality of the finishing with Russelsheimer racing to a 40 lead before Sarah Kelleher made it 4-1 at half-time.

Slough's tentative display in the semi-final against Siauliai, the Lithuanian champions — where they were forced to recover from a 2-0 deficit before winning 4-2 - did not bode well. With a squad of only nine fit players, the rigours of the tournament were bound to take their toll on the likes of Mandy Nicholson, Sue Chandler, Kelleber and Jane Smith, the competi-

tion's leading goalscorer. Britta Becker, the Russelsheimer captain, scored twice along with Tania Dickenscheid

In the women's National League premier division, Doncaster, who sit at the bottom of the table, caused the first big upset of the season when they defeated the depleted leaders. Ipswich. First-half goals by Sally Wright and Carol Savage and a penalty-corner goal six minutes from time, from Claire Ferguson, steered Doncaster to victory.

READING responded to their HOCKEY home supporters yesterday by

shooting their way to a 5-2 victory over Canterbury and a place in the semi-finals of the EHA Cup. Humphries had cut Reading's lead to 3-1 early in

the second half, but two quick goals by Briscoe and Pearn restored their superiority. The absence of Hacker, through injury, made a big difference Canterbury who lacked inspiration in their midfield.

Before they could settle down they were two goals down, Barnes, from a short corner, and Loose scoring for Reading. Then, two minutes before the interval, their plight worsened when Slay converted a penalty stroke. A goal from a short corner by Mathews just before the end

By Sydney Friskin

was small consolation for Canterbury.

Cannock. secured their place in the last four with a 43 home win over Lewes, of the first division. Edwards scored two goals from short corners for Cannock and Waters hit the target twice for Lewes from

A goal by Thompson in the last minute from a short enabled Loughtonians defeat Teddington 3-2. He had scored earlier to add to the first goal by Scott Smith. Wallis scored both goals for Teddington.

semi-finals was taken by Southgate with an 8-3 victory over Hounslow, who trailed 7-1 at half-time. Grice was the only player to score twice for Southgate, but he could have been joined by Kwan Browne, of Trinidad, who missed a penalty stroke after scoring in the eighth minute. It was a disappointing week-

The final place in the

end for Canterbury who dropped from second to third position in the National League premier division after 3-3 draw at home against Hounslow on Saturday.

Reading were out-gunned by Cannock, who, despite the absence of Crutchley, their injured sharp-shooter, went away with a 2-0 victory with goals by Pidcock and Hughes-Rowlands.



Kidd faces up to novel predicament

WHEN Brian Kidd. the Blackburn Rovers manager. was the assistant manager at Old Trafford, he knew that the buck stopped with Alex Ferguson. Now Kidd is a manager in his own right, and it is up to him to deal with all the usual problems of injury, suspension and loss of form. as well as one that Ferguson did not have to face - the fear of relegation.

On Saturday, Blackburn dropped back into the bottom three of the FA Carling Premiership, and their third defeat in 11 league games since Kidd took over contained some worrying elements. Against a West Ham United team whose recent record was little better theirs. Rovers were awful in the first half - in Kidd's own words, cautious and apprehensive - and unlucky in the second. Add a long injury list and you have an ominous combination.

Or do you? "If I didn't know the problems, then I would have a problem," Kidd said. "but I've identified them. At the moment, it's out of my control It's a crippling injury situation, plus the disciplinary record has been poor."

On Saturday, absences forced Kidd to field a team which, he admitted, included a number of square pegs in round holes, in a formation that handed the home team the freedom of the wings, which became evident when Paolo Di Canio crossed for Ian Pearce to head the open-

ing goal after 28 minutes. Without Billy McKinlay and Garry Flitcroft, the Blackburn midfield also allowed Eyal Berkovic too much leeway, and he took a return pass from Frank Lampard four minutes later before tecing up Di Canio for his first goal since joining West Ham. Rovers staged a second-half rally, but a combination of

poor finishing from Ashley



Ward and excellent saves by Shaka Hislop allowed West Ham to hold out and claim sixth place in the table.

by Nick Szczepanii

Eighteenth place is unfamiliar territory for Kidd, but he believes that he can deal with the predicament. "Working under Alex Ferguson. I've seen pressure situations," he said. "We've had a tough two weeks game-wise; prior to that, we've done OK. It isn't all doom and gloom," Nor does pressure to replace injured players with stop-gap signings, a solution he rejects on principle, although it leaves unanswered question of the yawning gap in central midfield.

Harry Redknapp, the West Ham manager, expressed surprise at Blackburn's position, but preferred to enthuse over the performance of his own team. "When you have got people like Berkovic and Di Canio, and you get into good movement and passing, and a few things are coming off, little flicks and onetwos, I think they enjoy it. Redknapp said. With half a squad on the treatment table and very little coming off. Kidd might have pointed out that it is not so much fun.

WEST HAM UNITED (3-5-2) S Histop — I Pearce, R Ferdinand, S Polts — S Lomas, E Berlione, M-V Fee, F Lampard, M Keller — T Snotar, P Di Camo BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-3-1-2), J Flan — J McAlser, D Pearcos, M Broomes, C Davidson — K Gillespie, D Dunn (sub: G Crolt, 68mm), J Wilcou (sub: D Dunt, 5-2) — M Jansen (sub: K Davies, 50) — A Ward, N Flake





Crossley salutes the visiting Nottingham Forest supporters after winning a point for his team with a series of brilliant saves, including one from Redfearn's penalty kick

SOMETIMES, the scoreline lies. At a glance you might assume this was a pit of gloom or that Charton Athletic and Nottingham Forest were equal in relegation mediocrity. Not true: Charlton are better than that. The people of SE7 still exude a joy at being back in their cavernous home, and on their cavernous home, and on their cavernous home. Saturday, alight with sun-shine. The Valley vibrated to the sound of samba and steel bands and was filled by faces painted red, white and black

Crossley keeps Forest afloat

in response to their club's sixth annual anti-tacist day.

Here, not far from where Stephen Lawrence was murdered, was sport in a broader perspective. As the music played colour terms be the into played, colour came back into a career once thought lost to fearful injury. Mark Crossley learnt at a 12,45pm that his day had come. Almost two years after he last played in the FA Carling Premiership, after a double hernia, a back ailment and then the reliable form of his replacement, Crossley heard his name first on the Forest teamsheet. Approaching 30, he may be, but nerves

set in.

Across the dressing-room the looming figure of Dave Beasant, Forest's first-choice goalkeeper lbst season and this, came towards him. "Dave said we shouldn't let this come between us," Crossley said, "he said we have such a good relationship, there are no hard feelings whatsoever."

Crossley stepped into a team

Crossley stepped into a team that had confeded 13 goals in three matches, and put a stop to that. The defence, still, was porous, the entire Forest side was overrun and Crossley admitted it is more likely to be relegated than not. Yet with five magnificent saves, and a penalty stop to boot, Crossley defied Charlton single-handed-ly. Stretching high, swooping low, obviously agile and seem-ingly calm, he is again an athlete without pain and without doubt that he can stand tall before a full house.

Indeed, because of him. Chariton's home became the valley of frustration. The goalkeeper, abetted by woeful missed opportunities, could



CHARLTON NOTTINGHAM FOREST.

by Rob Hughes

final reckoning. Their spirit is extraordinary, their own defence unbreached during February. But they are without a home game for five weeks, in part because the Tottenham Hotspur fixture is postponed because of the Worthington Cup final, and how much better it would have been to travel after an emphat-

ic victory.

The penalty in the 70th minute crystallised what happened. John Robinson, one of any number of red-shirted Charlton players working like ants to try to break the dead-lock, was bodychecked by Ste-ve Chettle just inside the penalty area. Redfearn did what he has done 39 times, placed the ball on the penalty spot and hit

High life. Rising prices.
Palace profit.

it. But Crossley is not entirely a novice against penalties. He is the only man ever to stop a Matthew Le Tissier penalty, he is the goalkeeper who stopped Gary Lineker from the penalty spot during the 1991 FA Cup Final. He reads the signs, makes up his mind, and throws himself on

fortune. "I always guess with penal-ties," he said. "With a right-footed player [like Redfearn] it's likely that he will try to put the ball across the keeper, so I went that way." He hurled his 6ft, 15-stone plus frame low to his right and, because Redfearn's shot was accurate but tentative, the save was easier than Crossley's dive to a simi-

when Redfearn, this time uncharacteristically with his left boot, was repelled by the finger tips of the goalkeeper's

Redfearn was one of two Charlton players who could have had a hat-trick. The other was Martin Pringle, the former military man from Sweden whose elusive front-running and defi touch have given Charlton new options and new hope. On Saturday, however, Pringle miscued a gaping chance after four minutes and never regained composure. Pringle wants a permanent home rather than the Kent hotel room that he shares with his wife and fourweek-old son, Hugo.

What was surprising was that a fellow guest at the hotel, John Barnes, was at not invited to show whether his flair could be decisive. The former Newcastle United and Liverpool player got no closer than the warm-up track, and may as well have spent the afternoon babysitting for the Pringles, a role he has volunteered on the lonely nights in Bexleyheath. But while Forest - with Steve Stone and Pierre van Hooijdonk no better than the team they seek to abandon brought just one save from Simon Royce, Alan Curbishley, the Charlton manager, said: 'The team was playing well, and I didn't need to change things and risk getting

Caution, in the weighed on Charlton. What Ron Atkinson, the Forest Messiah, thought, we may never know. A manager built by public image. Big Ron shunned the obligation to face the media. It left Crossley, a Forest man from his schooldays, saying: "Even if we go down, my ambition is to stay in the team, and grab my Weish place back. It's great to be fit and to get the chance." CHARLTON ATHLETIC (3-5-2): S Royce
— D Mris, S Brown, C Tier — J Robinson,
M Kinselia, N Redieam, K Jones, C Powell
— A Hunt (sub C Mendonca, 73mm), M



Di Canio joyfully celebrates his first goal for West Ham

Gascoigne dims memory with secondary role

THE only two things that can Post Office to pick up his about Paul Gascoigne are that (a) he will never again be the player he once was, and (b) he never was quite the player he might have been. If Kevin Keegan really is serious about making his first step as Eng-land coach a backward one by seeking one last burst of light from a faded star, then he might just as well go the whole hog and ask Sir Bobby Charlton to get his boots back on. Even as he runs down to the

as much chance of recreating one of those trademark, bodyswerving bursts away from an opponent and into scoring range as Gascoigne does today. The brain may still be able to work out the logistics of such a manoeuvre, but the legs and lungs are incapable of carrying it out. Gascoigne has, by all

accounts, been playing tolerably well of late in a Middlesbrough team that is collectively suffering from a terminal shortage of confidence, goals, points and, on this occasion. luck. But his contribution at Hillsborough was restricted to a handful of short and safe passes - and not even all of



ambitious volley that almost cleared the Kop, a pointed disagreement with a colleague and a booking, his twelfth of the season, for an early (tenthminute), late (as in the ball had gone) and studs-up challenge

any one of a number of mid-field journeymen from any division he fancies and be guaranteed much the same level of performance without the risk of a red card.

Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, defended his man, citing a sore knee and over-zealous refereeing. but was forced to confess that he had taken Gascoigne off at half-time to avoid Mike Riley. the Leeds official, doing the job for him. Nor did he argue the point that Middlesbrough were an immeasurably better team for Gascoigne's

departure So, if not Gazza for England, how about Wednesday

on Sonner. In short, it was a for Europe? No chance, form that has taken them into the top half of the table. For 20 invigorating minutes, during which Carbone was wonderfully inventive and Rudi a particular menace on the left wing, they looked like a team blending nicely.

In the end, though, they were flattered by the victory. never mind the margin of it. Booth's near-post finish was scant reward for Wednesday's early supremacy, but Middles-brough would have been at least level by half-time had Beck not been spectacularly denied by Pressman, then missed a sitter of a volley, and had Pallister not found the par

the points in favour of the home team: Sonner broke Middlesbrough's stranglehold by meeting Jonk's cross with the header it deserved. Mustoe scampered through to reply. then Booth headed in Rudi's free kick from close range. Gascoigne later found his way to the players' lounge. The route to Wembley and Poland on March 27 should be cordoned off.

Three goals in as many

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2) K Pressman — P Atherton, D Walker, E Thome, A Harchoffle — N Alexandersson, W Jork, D Sonner, P Rudi — 9 Carbone, A Booth.

Booth.

MRDDLESBROUGH (5-3-2) M Schwarzer

— R Stocktale (sub C Hamson, 90min), C
Copper, S Victors, G Palister, D Gordon

— Musslee, P Gascotiper (sub N Maddison,
48), A Townsend — M.Beck, H Ricard

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Annusi Gross p.a/AER	Monthly Gross p.a*		Annual Gross p.a/AER	Montbly Gross p.a*	
		High Interest Deposit Account and Privilege Account			
3.30%	, N/A	**2500 +	2.80%	N/A	
3.30%	N/A	E2,000 +	2.80%	N/A	
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3.50%	NA	£7,500 ÷	3.00%	N/A	
3.70%	N/A	£10,000 +	3.20%	N/A	
4.10%	WA	£25,000 +	3.60%	N/A	
4.40%	WA	£50,000 +	3.90%	N/A	
4.40%	N/A	£100,000 +	3.90%	N/A	
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		Exclusive of loyalty bonus	i		
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5.00%	4.89%	£10,000 +	4.50%	4.41%	
		inclusive of loyalty bonuse			
4.30%	WA	£2,600 +	3.80%	N/A	
5.00%	NA	£5,060 +	4.50%	N/A	
6.00%	MA	£10,000 +	5.50%	N/A	
		Privilege Account introductory bonus rate.)		
5.00%	N/A	£1+	4.50%	N/A	
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well-being can be found outside its

ground on match day. Supporters mill around in anticipation, street traders sell their wares with ease and the ticket touts have a spring in their step. Everyone wants a piece of the action; success on the pitch breeds success

On Saturday afternoon, Tottenham High Road was alive. "Wembley 99" banners and T-shirts were all the rage and the banter flowed and glowed in the direction of George Graham, the former demon of Arsenal but now sav-iour of White Hart Lane. Tottenham Hotspur had reached the final of the Worthington Cup, the quarter-finals of the FA Cup and were undeleated in 14 matches. Long gone were the dour, dis-mal days of Gerry Francis and Chrisnan Gross - Graham's predecessors - the players had rediscovered their zest for life and the fans were no longer

disenchanted. It took only 30 minutes of an essentially lifeless first half for reality to kick in. Tottenham had, unconvincingly, dominated a tepid FA Carling Premiership encounter with Derby County and Graham, seated in his directors' box ey-rie, had had enough. Hardly had he arrived in the dugout before he was urging the slackers on to greater effort and

goading his troops into the firing line. Fifty-six seconds into the second half, the Tottenham of old - lazy minds, poor concentration, slack marking returned to haunt them. Dorigo's quick free kick was nodded on by Wanchope for Burton to slide the ball home from close range. Graham's renowned powers of organisation and motivation appeared to have fallen on deaf ears.

Only then did his play-ers respond, with Freund flinging him-self dervish-like into

battle. Ginola at last

flitting more in than

out and Sherwood

driving forward. Hoult, the Derby

goalkeeper, saved mar-

vellously from Sci-noor's inadvertant de-

flection of Ginola's

cross and also did well

HOTSPUR DERBY COUNTY 1

to push Anderton's piledriver on to the crossbar. He could do nothing, though, to prevent the equaliser, when Dominguez, the substitute, released Sherwood to conjure a precisely measured shot. The real Tpt tenham, under Graham, had finally emerged and they could have won iran a frenzied, often bizarre, conclusion. As Tottenham battered away at the Derby goal, Burton was booked for failing to leave the pitch to remove his dangling neck chain and Edinburgh was sent of for his second bookable offence, a mis timed tackle on Harper. Perhaps Wan chope should have gone, too, for his lunge at Taricco.
The jigsaw is taking shape and ar

other piece will be slotted into place to morrow when Siewart Houston, Gra ham's former assistant at Highbury leaves Ipswich Town to join him. Chris Hughton, having diligently worked his way up to No 2 over a period of six years, will return to the shadows as just another coach. He put on a brave face. "George and Stewart had an excellent parmership and I'm looking forward to working with them," he said. TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2) | Wigher — M Tele-co, R Vege, S Campbell, J Edinburgh — D Andertor, S Freund, T Sherwood, D Ginota — S Ivensen, C Am-strong (sub- J Dominguez, Strain)

DERBY COUNTY (3-4-1-2) R Hoult — J Laurson Cartonal, S Schnox — S Eranio (sub. S Prior, 41) Carstey L Bohman, A Dorigo (sub. K Harpor, 72) — Button — F Raiano (sub. J Hunt, 73), P Wanchope,

with a thumping header. Influence of Graham Jeffers shows Smith he fails to inspire victory is man enough for task

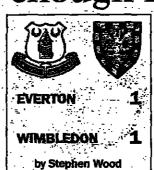
FRANCIS JEFFERS is bony of body but stony of mind. At the age of 18, when nature and a selection of gym equipment has had little time to carve out a physique that can repel the defensive warhorses of the FA Carling Premiership, it is the mental prowess that separates growing men from the boys. That is why Ever-

believe Jeffers is a special player. Jeffers's education in the game developed from a hero-worship of Andy Gray, the former Everton striker, even though he was only four when Gray last kicked a ball for the club, to shining at the Football Association's School of Excellence at Lilleshall. Goals have flowed at all levels but, such has been the chronic state of Everton this season that, Walter Smith, the manager, has tried to protect Jeffers from the depression surrounding the

ton, despite all their cautionary tales.

It required, therefore, words rather than actions for Smith to give in to temptation. Initially, Smith, who only joined Everton last summer, was told by the staff at the club, who had seen Jeffers progress, that "young Francis could handle the pressures of the first team". From Jeffers himself came confirmation that he was ready. "I've played in front of 70,000 people for England schoolboys in Germany, so I didn't see why 35,000 at Goodison would be such a problem," he said.

And so it has proved. He scored his first league goal against Wimbledon on Saturday, a neat header to earn his team-mates a valuable point as their attempt to climb clear of relegation trouble continued Danny Cadamarteri, Jeffers's teenage strike partner,



the goal and deserves special praise. For it was Cadamarteri who embraced the physical duties that Jeffers, to an extent, had to negate.
Smith commended

the pair's contribution to the afternoon, but he is not a man to over-indulge. "Young players are a surprise for people," Smith wrote in the match programme. "In the weeks to come. Francis will face dif-

ferent defenders who will set different challenges for him." Smith will be grateful when Hutchison returns from suspension, and overjoyed if he can persuade Kevin Campbell, from Trab-zonspur, or Michael Mols, a striker from Holland, to sign for the club. However, in response to Smith's wariness, Jeffers's mature attitude is

evident once again. "All I wanted was a chance." he said. "I'm not going to be a hero at 18. I'm confident in my ability, but I will never forget where I have come from, or where I'm at now." Dave Watson, the Everton defender, misjudged a ball that caught in the wind to allow Efan Ekoku to open the scoring for Wimbledon after 14 min-

utes for the visitors' first goal in six Thereafter, their paucity of ideas suggested there could be another long wait until the next one. Instead, it was Everton who pressed for a winner, and could have had a penalty when

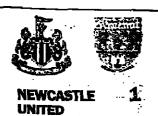
Hughes appeared to trip Branch, the

home side's substitute. EVERTON (4-4-2), T.Mytre — D.Werr, D.Watson, M.Mat-erazz, D.Uneworth — J.Oster (aut. M.Branch, 81mm), O. Decourt, M. Ball, N. Barmytoy — D. Cadamarten, F. Jeffers,

WIMBLEDON (4-4-2). N Sultivan --- K Custaingham, C. Perry, D Blackwell, S Thatcher --- J Euelf I subt N Ardiey, 32). A Roberts, R Earle, M Hughes --- E Boku, M Gayle.

'Houllier

Hamann breaks Arsenal's cover



by Kevin McCarra

BAD timing, like a change in the weather, can turn an appealing jaunt into a treacherous journey. In previous days, progress might have been comfortable, but Arsenal, despite taking the lead, were unable to make their way through to victory yesterday against a Newcas-tle United side that is growing in resourcefulness.

Arsenal, seven points behind Manchester United in the FA Carling Premiership, may even come to see this as a day when the itiner-ary of their intended trek towards the title was disrupted and will think wistfully of occasions earlier in the season when such as West Ham United and Leeds United sauntered to St James' Park and amused themselves by administering a pasting.

Since then, the ground has ceased to be an amusement parlour for the day-trippers. Ruud Gullit has pieced together a team that functions more fluently. It would be idle to pretend that he is in anything more than the early stages of overhaul and there were spells yesterday when Newcastle looked uneasy. Yet they never capitulated and newcomers such as Didier Domi have brought a solidity that foiled Arsenal's efforts to take decisive control.

Even more importantly, Newcastie, when the propects appear dreary, have the potential for effervescence, as they had shown when conjuring a fine goal to knock Blackburn Rovers out of the FA Cup last week. They tapped this resource against Arsenal when Temuri Ketsbaia, a substitute, fed Dietmar Hamann in the 77th minute. The Germany midfield player strode on to weave his way into the cluster at the centre of the Arsenal defence. This is a course that is usually about as safe as sprinting into the midst of a motorway.

EVEN as they sat six points clear at the top of the FA Carling Premicrship earlier in the season

the feeling remained that Aston Villa would slip behind the true

championship contenders come

Gregory, the manager, expected

what has become glaringly appar-

ent when he effectively conceded

defeat in the challenge for the title

of exaggeration when he declared

the performance as the "worst of

my life as a player or a manager",

but not of his candid assessment of

Villa's present situation. "We are

in deep trouble," he said, or words

NEXT to Gerard Houllier,

Gianluca Vialli, with his pen-

chant for school-uniform col-

ours and jumpers, looks every inch the keen student. But

Houllier, while appearing pro-

Vialli's shoulder to discover

the formula they are working

Chelsea's victory came too

easily. Liverpool only applying pressure in the final 20

minutes, and had the visitors

secured a draw, no one would

Chelsea should have dou-

bled their goal tally while so

evidently on top, but that has

been their bugbear all season

and still they keep on win-

ning. Liverpool cannot keep

to the gods of inconsistency. It

is not difficult to picture Houl-

chalk in one hand, board dust-

er in the other, trying to un-

earth the formation that will

solve the puzzle and unleash

on to the FA Carling Premier-

(lier buried in the bootroom,

on doing anything except bow

to at Stamford Bridge.

have been fooled.

to that effect.

Gregory was merely stating

such a steep decline and fall.

rew, not least jon



Anelka, who had been put clear by Bergkamp; strides past Given, the Newcastle goalkeeper, to put Arsenal ahead at St James' Park. Photograph: Ross Kinnaird/Allsport

mown down and kept his balance to stab a controlled shot into the corner of the net. It was a breakthrough that also smashed the highly familiar shape that the game had been assuming. Were it not for that inspired intervention, this would have been the most old-fashioned of Arsenal successes. In the gap between Newcastle's bright opening and the equaliser, Arsene Wenger's side had plied their trade with dead-

Arsenal, above all, are the team to fasten mercilessly on to a small advantage, for the champions are famous for the relish they take in a close contest. For them, the satisfaction inherent; in a narrow win would have been as great as that of any rout. No matter what other renovations have been undertaken by Wenger at Highbury, that trait has been preserved with a conservation-

Alan Shearer cheerfully exchanged thumps with his England team-mates, but the resistance of Tony Adams and Martin Keown is not to be broken down by meaty blows. In the end, guile was to prove their undoing and, by that late stage, artifice was not expected to make an appearance.

It was not always the players' fault that the action, which saw Remi Garde taken off on a stretcher off in the fourth minute following a challenge by Solano was a matter of bump and bruise. A soft, abraded surface made the ball a bit of a stick-in-the-mud and, as the passes refused to roll, a static game joined the players together through tugs and tussles.

The resilient aspect of Arsenal was highlighted by Patrick Vieira, the sentinel in midfield, whose guard duty still allowed him time off for bouts of definess. In the twentieth minute, he turned near his own corner flag to detach himself from Brady and embark on a loping surge before supplying Nicolas Anelka, who sent Overmars through with a flick.

Newcastle could not stop Arsenai then, but Mike Reed, the referee, did, deciding that Anelka had been fouled by Nikolaos Dabizas and declining to play the blatant advantage. Even so, Gullit's side were not to be saved from themselves in the 36th minute. Both of Newcastle's centre backs were at fault, with Steve Howey fluffing a clearance to Bergkamp and Dabizas failing to intercept the pass from the Dutchman that sent Anelka clear to drift

round Shay Given to finish. The episode left Newcastle with an acrid taste, but there had been sourness in their mouths for a stride to the byline and deliver the ideal, low cross to the back post. Shearer waited there and looked almost nonchalant as he thrust out his right foot to nudge the ball home. Somehow, he made no contact at all.

Newcastle continue to have several faults, but, under Gullit, enough talent has been amassed to ensure that, on days like this, they can atone for them.

ARSENAL (4-4-2): O Seaman — L Duon, M Ke-own, A Adems, N Whitestrum — R Parlour, P Vieira, R Gardie (sub: S Hughes, 4), M Overmers (sub: M Upson, 85) — N Anelice, D Bergleamp.

Instead, Aloisi reacted smartly

when Southgate lost his balance to

volley in a free kick by Froggatt in

the 72nd minute and Boateng completed the victory by lobbing

Oakes as the goalkeeper tried to

McAllister. A serious ankle injury

to Watson and a muted display by

Dublin compounded the difficul-

Strachan has a happier problem

in how to accommodate the preda-

tory Aloisi when Whelan recovers

fitness. "Huckerby and Whelan want to play good football and like

scoring goals, but Aloisi is just des-

perate to score goals." Strachan said. Other defences will offer the

Australia striker less assistance.

out a through

ties facing Gregory.

Beckham rises above United's indifference



MANCHESTER UNITED

SOUTHAMPTON 4

by Kevin McCarra PRE-MATCH entertainment is good for business only because it

sends many supporters fleeing for the snack bar. The crowd actually stayed and grumbled in its seats at Old Trafford, but could not have mistaken the fact that this fixture was a desultory preliminary to the real event. Ryan Giggs, Dwight Yorke and the rest were a warm-up act for themselves. They did no more than kindle interest in a performance of, one hopes, far greater dimensions that they will give against Internazionale in the home leg of the European Cup quarter-final on Wednesday.

There is more often a glint than a twinkle in the eye of Alex Ferguson, the manager, and he did not consider the long listlessness pardonable. One figure met his standard. While others took the field yet excused themselves duty. David Beckham's desire to make passes was never sated. Every move that brought or promised a goal had a contribution from Beckham embedded within it.

There was nothing statuesque in his display, no inclination to content himself with striking long balls from deep positions. He often ran hard at Southampton and, in an undistinguished match, the loss of him would have been intolerable. Even the referee was, rightly, solicitous of his welfare. When Beckham was brought down by Patrick Colleter. Peter Jones was as eager to calm the midfield player as he was to book the Frenchman.

After his dismissal against Argentina at the 1998 World Cup, there has been a contrived yet persistent hostility towards Beckham from the fans of other clubs. It may be that, as a riposte, he has learnt to apply his skills with greater concentration than ever. Even Ferguson, who was otherwise in no mood for plaudīts, said: "He has been magnificent for us this season."

In the game with Inter, Beckham will face Diego Simeone, the man against whom he retaliated to earn that red card at the World Cup. On Saturday, however, United eventually demonstrated that the excitement of their European Cup cam paign will spring from more than the melodrama of one man's life. Having tried to rest some important members of the team, Ferguson found that the competence of the visiting team compelled him to reinstate them as substitutes.

SOUTHAMPTON, surprisingly confident at a ground where they have now lost ten matches in a row, kept possession well in the first half, even if they fashioned virtually no chances. Beckham set up Yorke and Giggs for headers that were blocked on the goal-line, but United's discontent grew and Roy Keane was brought on to generate the pace that had been lacking in

the build-up. The erosion of Southampton was under way and they also lost Ken Monkou with a hamstring injury. In the 79th minute, Beckham's corner was nodded back by Henning Berg. laid-off by Yorke and finished with the low shot from Keane that deflected from the leg of Colleter. Four minutes later. Beckham barely broke stride as he tamed Denis Irwin's awkward, dropping clearance before striding on to flight the beautiful pass that allowed Yorke to sidestep Paul Jones, the goalkeep-

er, and increase the lead. All the same, United should experience a little unease. Once more. they were as unhappy at set-pieces as they have been in the European matches. James Beattie met a corner from Matt Le Tissier, a substitute, and headed against the bar when the game was goalless. In injury time, Le Tissier, unhampered, glanced home Jason Dodd's free kick. A minute earlier. Peter Schmeichel had dived for a Le Tissier shot and spooned the ball to Beattie, who hit the post. There is still remedial work of one sort or another to be done at Old Trafford.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4.4-2): P Schmeichel
— G Neville H Berg, R Johnsen, P Neville (sub. D
Invin, 78mmt — D Bedittern, P Scholes (sub. D
Nesne, 45), N Bun, R Geggs — D Yorke, O G
Scholest (sub. A Cole. 57)
SCHTHAMPTON (4-4-2); P Jones — J Dodd, R
Montou (sub. F Benefi, 50), C Lundelnam, P Colleter — D Hughes, M Carley, C Manydan, W Brdge
— J Beatile, E Ossenstad (subr. M Le Tissier, 67)
Feetierner P Jones

Gregory reconciled to failure

place in the Uefa Cup, the worstcase scenario until recently, must

the passion and purpose usually reserved for the last game of the after a shocking reverse on Satur-day. There might have been a hint campaign, when their status hinges on the result, they were ushered to a first league win at Villa Park as smoothly as guests at a wedding. Flimsy both in defence and midfield, Villa stood uneasily in a linear 4-4-2 formation that saw Hendrie and Merson confined to

If Leeds United beat Leicester City tonight then Villa will slip to fifth place, their lowest position of the season. But regardless of the result at Filhert Street, self-helief is

now be considered uncertain. While Coventry City played with

the flanks and the full backs offering little support.
"I saw things which confirmed

my worst fears about certain players," Gregory said. "There are a lot of injuries and not much confi-

ship a Liverpool side that lives

That is perhaps at the root of the problem. All this fid-

dling, tweaking and cajoling

has to stop. Liverpool should

have been rebuilt years ago.

possibly twice over since they

last won the league title in

1990. Arguably Bill Shankly's

greatest talent was in seeing

decline in the midst of victory

of planning beyond the next cup final, the next trophy.

Houllier is clinging on and building around foundations

that are just are not strong

enough. Both Liverpool and

England are suffering be-

cause the partnership of Ince

and Redknapp in midfield is

considered a perfect combina-

tion of guile and guts. Well. it

ought to be, and on occasion it

has been, but their fine per-

formances do not outweigh

Against Chelsea, Liverpool

gave away possession in mid-field and put the defence

their disappointing ones.

Now the opposite is true.

up to its billing.

you dou it ali qowi not reasons. I have not dealt with matters too well so I'm facing a huge test myself. But I am a good manager, and I intend to do something."

Although he suggested that movement in the transfer market represented likely to take. "We should have gone and spent another EIO

pointment," he added.

自然

- Houllier building on weak foundations

CHELSEA

LIVERPOOL

by Alyson Rudd

under constant pressure

Babb and Matteo coped rea-

sonably well and while

Kvarme and Bjornebye blun-

dered, struggling to adapt to

the 4-4-2 formation forcell on

them when Heggern had to be

replaced in the ninth minute.

the entire back fine could

argue they had been let down.

tive of the team when, on their

travels, they have lost ground

- this was their eighth away

defeat of the season - but on

Saturday he was less inclined

Houllier has been protec-

Juninho deal was a huge disap-

ASTON VILLA COVENTRY CITY 4 by Richard Hobson

to find excuses. Even so, he

restricted his criticism to the

niceties rather than the funda-

mentals. "We build up too

slow. What gives fluidity to a

Some distillusioned support-

game is movement," he said.

ers might want to see move-ment of a different sort. With

only a decent placing in the

Premiership to strive for, Liv-

erpool are in danger of

ebbed a touch too early, but you could almost forgive them for believing they had

done enough in the first half

They rotate much more than just their strike-force at

Stamford Bridge. They take it

turns to be heroes too. Right

now Goldback is the toast of

Fulham Road. He and Petres-

cu enjoyed themselves, ping-

ing the ball from wing to

wing, leaving the visitors diz-

zy and disorientated, and

from a deep cross by the Ru-

insular `

becoming

Cheisea's

to win the game.

obsessed.

line next month. Alan Stubbs, the the easy option, it is one that he is Celtic defender, remains a target. Ehiogu is a moot point. million on players to strengthen the squad. Failure to land the

considering Gregory as a replacement for Arrigo Sacchi, sacked as the coach last week, has arrived at a convenient time for the manager as he seeks support from the boardroom before the transfer dead-

but whether Stubbs can provide the strength of the injured Ugo It is difficult to imagine the robust Ehiogu being muscled out

of the challenges that led to the

Aloisi turned anead of Scimeca before angling his low shot across Oakes. Then, five minutes into the second half, Scimeca again allowed himself to be beaten by Boateng, who scored at the near post.

By this time Boateng had secured a firm grip in midfield to complement the craft of McAllister and endeavour of Telfer. Coventry could consider themselves unfortunate that Uriah Rennie, the referee, deemed a challenge by Shaw on Joachim worthy of a penalty, and if Dublin had scored from close range four minutes af-ter converting from the spot then Gordon Strachan, the manager, might have spoken more caustical-ly about the decision afterwards.

ASTON VILLA (4-4-2): M Celes — S Weston (sub G Berry, 43min), R Schrece, G Southgale, A Wright — P Merson, S Greyson, I Taylor (sub: M braper, 25: sub: S Collymore, 60), L Henchie — D Dublin, J Joschim, COVENTRY CTTY (4-4-2): M Hedman — R Nisson, R Shaw, P Williams, D Burrows — G Boaleng, P Teffer, G McAffelier, S Froggett — D Huckerby (sub: G McShelirey, 90), J Aloes Referee: U Rennie.

unmarked and ordered Kvarme to stalk him? Liverpool could have played the misfortune card have early on. Babb giving away an early penalty, converted by Leboeuf, after it appeared he was not intentionally handling the ball but claiming a foul against him by Flo. Liverpool created chances

manian, Goldback snatched

Chelsea's second goal. "I was

unmarked." he admitted.

That happens sometimes but

why had no one on the Liver-

pool bench noticed that Gold-

back had been continuously

other than the one that led to Owen's goal in the 77th minute, but it is not just Chelsea who have brushed them aside this season. 25ide filis Season.

CHELSEA (4-4-2): E De Goey — A Ferrer, M Desaily. F Leboeuf (sub: B Lambourde, 33min), G Le Saux (sub: E Newton, 82) — D Petrescu, P D Mette, D, Morre, B Gordback.

— T A Flo Sub: M Forsset, 89), G Zole.

LIVERPOOL. (3-6-2). D James — B T Kvarme, O Matteo. P Babb. — V Heggern sub: S McKemman, 9), J Redirepp, P Ince (sub: J M Femi, 45), P Berger (sub: K Redies 80), S I Bjornebye — M Owen, R Fowler.

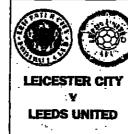


Speculation over next manage er of Leeds United overshadowed

an otherwise forgettable encounter between these clubs last October. When Tony Cottee earned Leicester City a I-0 win at Elland Road the odds on Martin O'Neill replacing George Graham shortened.

Some three weeks passed before O'Neill finally reject-ed the overtures from Elland Road and David O'Leary accepted the post. Leicester supporters danced in the streets, while at Leeds they reserved judgment. Half a season later, the verdict on O'Leary could hardly be more favourable. Victory against a Leicester side without a win in six league games tonight will lift Leeds into fourth place in the FA Carling Premiership and raise hopes for a Ueta Cup place next season.

Radebe, who was due to



Africa at 6am this morning, will play his second game in three days, having appeared for his country against Gabon on Saturday, but Woodgate is suspended. O'Neill recalls Cottee, while Heskey is expected to have recovered from a back problem. 1.EICESTER CITY (possible: 3-5-2) Keller — P. Kaamark, M. Eğlot, Ullahome — F. Sincker, T. Zagonika, Lannon, M. Izset, S. Guppy — A Cottee, Hestey

Tonight, 8.0

Hesisey LEED'S UNITED (possible: 4-4:2). I Martyn — G. Halfe, D. Westerall, Raciebe, I. Harte — A.I Hastand, Bowyer, D. Hablen, W. Korsten — J. Hasselbank, H. Kweel Reference G. Earther

TELEVISION: Live on Sky Sports 1, from 7pm.

Chelsea chase Sutton

HAVING made what appeared to be a tongue-in-cheek approach to Chris Sutton. the Blackburn Rovers forward. Chelsea's interest may be more serious (Alyson Rudd writes). Áfter Blackburn's I-l draw at Stamford Bridge two weeks ago. Suzannah Dwyer. the partner of Ken Bates, the Chelsea chairman, asked Sutton: "How do you fancy playing for us?"

What Sution assumed was

a joke has now turned into

genuine interest. Chelsea's FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup and Cup Winners' Cun campaigns are all in robust health, despite their apparent struggle to score goals. Sutton, who would cost

around £10 million, could

make the difference while Tore Andre Flo regains fell fitness and Mikael Forssell. the young Finland forward. learns his trade in the Premiership. "It's flattering when a team like Chelsea want you." Sutton said.



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Nationwide League: Bradford rise while Goldberg's popularity sinks in victory

Jewell revels in thrill of the chase

Bradford City......1
West Bromwich Albion.....0

By PAT GIBSON

CRAZY, Paul Jewell, the Bradford City manager, called it. Strange. Denis Smith, his West Bromwich Albion counterpart, concurred. They were talking about the Nationwide League first division in which no fewer than eleven clubs are still clinging to the hope that they can join Sunderland, the runaway leaders, in the FA Carling Premiership next

Jewell's remark was prompted by the news of Bolton Wanderers 3-1 home defeat by the bottom club, Crewe Alexandra, which had allowed Bradford to sneak back into the

Results and tables..... Lynne Truss..

second automatic promotion position, behind Sunderland. That sort of thing can happen in this division." he said.

Smith's comment was in support of his contention that West Bromwich can still win a place in the play-offs, despite the fact that they have now taken only one point from their past four games and dropped

"Everybody is beating one another." he said. "We've had a bad month and it's not done us the world of good. It has made life extremely difficult, but it isn't over yet. I've just told my players that it's only March. The season finishes in

Bradford did not need reminding of that but there is a growing belief at Valley Parade that they are on their way back to the top division of English football for the first time since the 1921-22 season.

They have been beaten only once in their past 13 league games and Jewell reflected his pleasure in the way they are churning out results in his chipper. Scouse way. "I'm glad we're out of our slump," he said. "Two draws and a vicory. Terrible."

Bradford still have a long way to go if they are to compete on a regular basis with the club that was relegated with them 77 years ago — it just happened to be Manchester United - but, on Saturday, they showed a similar facility for winning games without

playing as fluently as they can.
There were valid reasons for
that. They were without the
influential Beagrie on the left because of injury and when their other winger, Lawrence, went off in the 17th minute with a bad back, they had to split their prolific striking part-nership of Mills and Blake to

retain their shape.

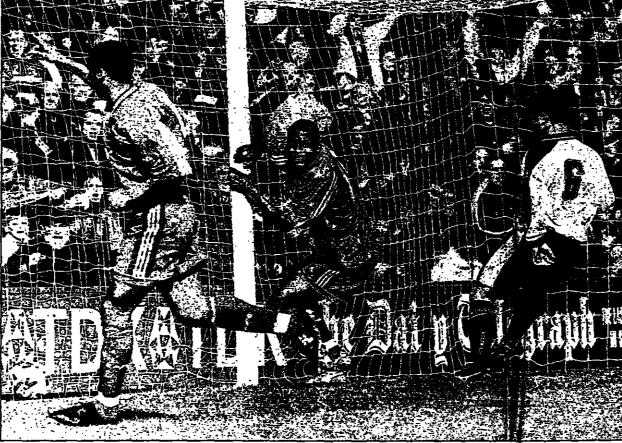
There was an unexpected bonus, however. Jewell pushed Jacobs, normally a left back, into a left-sided midfield position in place of Beagrie and was able to claim afterwards, albeit with tongue firmly in cheek, "an inspired change of tactics by the manager. I always knew he could play left wing."

Apart from that, Jacobs

scored the goal, after only two minutes, to upset West Bromwich's pre-match plan to pack their midfield in order to make themselves more solid in defence. Sneekes conceded a foul on the right and, when Whalley's free kick was headed out, Jacobs's shot was deflected past a wrong-footed W hitehead.

Bradford seemed to have scored a second goal in the 25th minute when Mills turned in Rankin's low cross. but it was belatedly ruled out for offside and, for all the excellence of McCall and Whalley in midfield, their nerves were beginning to fray when Rankin squandered two second-half chances.

BRADPORD CITY (44-2) G Walsh — A O'Bnen D Moore, AWestwood (sub J Dreyer, 8) mrs), L Todd — J Lawrence (sub I Rankin, 17 mm), S McCall, G Whalley, W Jacobs — R Blake L Mills Jacops — In Blank & L. Mills WEST BROMWICH ALBION (4-5-1): P Winterlead — P Holmes, S Muphy D Bur-gess J Van Beek — M Angel, M Borolazar sub P Ramen, 87. J Qu'un I sub F De Fred-15. (6)) R Sneakes, k Kilbarle — L Hughes



Mullins, left, turns away in celebration with Morrison, centre, after giving Crystal Palace the leaf at Selhurst Park

By Russell Kempson

MANY Crystal Palace sup-porters travelled to Selhurst Park yesterday with one aim in mind: to heckle Mark Goldberg, the chairman, and voice their dismay at his troubled eight-month stewardship of the Nationwide League first division club. They left, a few disgruntled chants and token protests later, in buoyant mood, having witnessed Palace's first victory since Boxing

The expected mass calling for Goldberg's head did not materialise. The fans' anger may yet resurface, not to mention that of the players. They did not receive their monthly wages on Friday and will wait with trepidation until Wednesday, when Goldberg has promised to pay up from his personal funds. That the value of his shares in his computer company recently slumped from its £10 million "comfort zone" to little more than £2 million does not augur well.

Goldberg remained upbeat amid the discontent. "Maybe my biggest mistake was my

Mullins gives Palace rebels cause to smile

professional job."

Moses was the first to go after

colliding with Jones, his team-

mate, and sustaining a gashed head that required

eight stitches. Appleby, his re-

placement, went seven min-

utes later with a suspected cracked pelvis — his fall possi-bly caused by the uneven sur-face — and Sheridan failed to

reappear after the interval be-

cause of a dislocated law. Of

the three, only Moses might recover to play Tottenham.

ambition," he said. "I thought too big too quickly. I can understand why the fans are angry but it doesn't help to fight with me. It's the time to unite, not fight." Steve Coppell, once again called into the breach after the depar-

ture of Terry Venables, the Palace coach, six weeks ago, has seen it all before. "I think it's part of the Palace fans' mentality," he said.
"They love to suffer the torture. I'm just glad we didn't play brilliantly and win 5-0 be-

cause some of my players might have then been sold. We had all kinds of excuses—the strong wind, the state of the pitch, the chair-man's problems and not be-ing paid. I'm just happy we got a scrappy win. The players are philosophical about it all and, in the circumstances.

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As the crisp packets and assorted febris flew around in the swiling gusts, neither Palace do Barnsley were able combat the conditions with any degree of success. That 17,000 fans had turned up to cheer, or jeer, said much for their dislike of armchair viewing or perhaps darker, said. ing or perhaps darker, sado-masochistic tendencies. Coppell was spot on: it was torture. The goal that decided

it, in the 25th minute, was appropriately scrappy, with Mullins scurrying into the Barns-ley area and attempting to Palace won in ugly fashion but perhaps were due a slice of good fortune. Barnsley, push his shot past Tony Bul-lock, the ourushing goalkeep-er. The ball bobbled at the vi-tal moment over Bullock's with one eye on their FA Cup quarter-final against Totten-ham Hotspur on Saturday, had hardly contributed to an awful spectacle when they exprostrate body and trickled into the net for Mullins's third perienced a bizarre series of ingoal of the season. "I must be the biggest mug in the world," Goldberg said, juries shortly before half-time.

"but we've got to stick together and see this through." The three points, however ill-de-served should give him some breathing space.

CRYSTAL PALACE (3-8-2): K Mäer — G Petric, C Moors, A Linighan — J Smith, S Thomson (sub: S Evens, 58mm), H Mullins, C Fosser, Sun Jitsi — C Morrison, Fan Zhyi C Froster, Sun Jires — C Momeron, Fan Zhiyi (sub. L. Alpkerser, 73). BARRINSLEY (4-4-2): A Bullock — N Eaden, A de Zeeuw, S Jones, C Biacrimore — A Mis-ess (sub."; M Applieby, 37, sub.: M Bullock, 44). K. Fuchardson, C Hignett, D Shandan (sub.: D Goodman, 48) — B Dyer, M Sheron.

Francis goes Continental via North Sea

Grimsby Town Birmingham City.....3

BY MARTIN WOODS

TREVOR FRANCIS intro-duced a little bit of Serie A artistry to the North Sea. alloument that is Biundell Park when his Birmingham City side gave a masterclass in the art of defending to erode further the tantalising prospect of Gianluca Vialli and company gracing Cleethorpes in the FA Carling Premiership next season

Premiership next season.

Every year, the Premiership entertains a club from the wrong side of the tracks before showing it the door. Alan Buckley's Grimsby Town would trump any of the disad-vantages held by previous in-cumbents of the top division's trapdoor. Even among the can-didates for a play-off place, Grimsby revel in the role of rank outsiders. However, if points were awarded for a manager's disarming honesty. automatic promotion would beckon. "I thought we were sec-ond best," Buckley said. "They

deserved to beat us."

Beaten previously only twice at Blundell Park this season by sides, as Francis pointed out, just departed the Pre-miership, Grimsby are a formidable proposition at home. so Saturday's 3-0 verdict intimates the growing validity of Birmingham's claim on an automatic promotion spot. "They are the best I've seen for a while," Buckley said.

Birmingham's masterful de-fence, marshalled by Gary Rowett, laid the foundation for victory in the first half when they withstood everything Grimsby threw at them before taking the lead nine minutes before the break.

The goal was a reminder of how the Zimbabwe international Peter Ndlovu once illuminated the top flight. Taking possession just outside the right of the Grimsby box, the former Coventry City striker twisted and turned Lever and Smith before unleashing a shot through the crowded area into the right-hand corner of

For all Grimsby's monopoly on possession, their neat, intricate passing game too often foundered on the rock of Rowett and Johnson

If Grimsby's primary fault was over-elaboration. Birmingham derived their ascendancy from concentrated simplicity. O'Connor, the captain, and Hyde were instrumental in maintaining their side's ad-vantage as Grimsby redou-bled their efforts after the break. However, their prospects were undermined as Lever did not reappear and Buck-ley was forced to deploy Groves, his captain, as a make-shift centre half.

When Hughes dribbled clean through the right side of the home defence before shooting straight at the goalkeeper, Davison, a quarter of an hour into the half, it confirmed City's growing sense of superi-ority. They had drawn Grims-

BOB TAYLOR equalled the all-time goalscoring record for the third division of English football with all five goals as Gillingham demol-ished Burnley 5-0 at Turf Moor. Taylor scored four times in the first half before adding his fifth three minutes after the break.

by's sting and 1-0 was not going to satisfy them.

Francis proved his theory that a spurned striker is a dangerous one five minutes before the end when the substitute, Dele Adebola, turned Smith outside the box before stroking the ball wide of the outstretched Davison. Rowett then rose above the home defence to head home, like a bullet, Hughes's corner. "We just don't throw a back four together," Francis said. "We do a lot of hard work on the training ground."

GRIMSBY TOWN (4-4-2: A Davison — J McDermott, R Smith, M Lever (safe: W Burnett, 45min), T Gellimore — K Donover, S Colidott (safe: T Wickington, 64). P Groves, K Black — L Nogan (safe: D Clare. 48), L Ashcrott.
BRIMBERGAMM CITY (4-4-2): K Poole — J Bass, G Rowett, M Johnson, S Charlion (safe) J McCarriy, 78). — M Granger, M O'Connox, G Hyde, B Hughes — P Furtony (safe: N Forster, 89), P Ndlovu (safe: D Adeholo, 71).

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Houston leaves Wright on top

Bristol City . Ipswich Town.

By DAVID POWELL

JUST as surely as Stewart Houston is leaving Ipswich Town, so luck is deserting Bristol City. Bristol had not so much the lion's share of the chances as enough to ieed an entire jungle, but Richard Wright, Ipswich's England Under-21 goalkeeper. proved unbeatable.

Ipswich moved up one place to third in the Nationwide League first division with their twentieth clean sheet. "How long have we been saying that Richard is the finest young keeper in the country and it was there to be seen again today?" George Burley, the Ipswich manager, observed.

Wright's best moment was a double block from Locke's drive and Akinbiyi's follow-up, but he would not be persuaded

into admiring his own work. "In training every day we work on things like that." Wright, 21, said. He is sorry to lose Houston, whose last game as coach this was before joining Tottenham Hotspur. "He has been a great influence on me," Wright

Houston is tearning up with George Graham, with whom he had a successful parmership at Arsenal. After the game. when Houston brought the players back out to warm down, they good-naturedly wrestled him to the ground. In return, he left them with a flea in their ear. "Ipswich have to be better on Tuesday against Wat-ford," Houston said. "We cannot go on

playing the way we did today." John Gorman, assistant to the former England coach, Glenn Hoddle, raised speculation that he was to be Houston's successor by his presence in the stands. Asked the question, Burley did not deny it. gave Ipswich their thirteenth point from five matches and added to the bad luck being dealt out to Bristol City.

In a bleak February, they have lost to a disputed 89th-minute goal against Sunder-land, enjoyed the better of the chances against Queens Park Rangers and Ips-wich, without winning, had three points snatched away from them in the ninetieth minute against West Bromwich Albion, and lost two key players. Tistimeranu and Bell, to injury for the rest of the season.

On Saturday, after the final whistle, a radio commentator suggested that City were not dead and buried yet. After two wins in 18 matches, they are almost being

BRISTOL CITY (4-4-2): S Philips — L Carey, M Shaif, V Se-bok, J Braman — S Andersen, A Locke, R Edwards (sub. M HIII, 76mio), A Brown — A Alenbey, S Torpey IPSWICH TOWN (3-5-2): R Wright — M Thebs, A Mowbray, M Vanus — F Wilnis (sub: M Stockwell, 46), K Dyer, J Magilton, M Holland, J Claphan — R Neytor, M Harewood (sub: R Petts, 82)

promotion drive

Macclesfield Town...... Wigan Athletic.....

By a Correspondent

GIANT strides have been taken by Macclesfield Town over these past two seasons but a small step backwards seems inevitable now after this latest home defeat that leaves them rooted at the foot of the Nationwide League

second division.

Even the Macclesfield faithful, who have followed the club from the Conference to their present status, appeared to accept that the chill wind blowing across the tiny South Cheshire ground was an ill one. Lack of money and a rise to prominence that has come too quickly was the general

opinion. Despite their position and the state of the Moss Rose pitch, Sammy McIlroy, the Macclesfield manager, Macclesfield manager, remained pragmatic. "The pitch is a disgrace but it's the same for both sides," he said. His task is now to lift his team for the home derby match with Stoke City, another team in poor form, tomorrow.

Macclesfield's performance in the first half was desperate, but the goal by Wigan Athlet-ic that decided the contest was derived from cruel luck. David Lee's sixth-minute floating cross from the right speed on the stiff north-easter-ly and eluded Ryan Price's frantic efforts to backpedal in time to make the save.

Although the home side rallied after half-time, by then Wigan's defensive lines, ex-perty shored up by Colin Greenall, their centre back, were well established.

Wigan have now lost just two of their past 21 matches. Financed by David Whelan, the chairman of JJB Sports. they will open next season in a new £30 million stadium and it may yet be a debut in the first division.

If that target is to be attained. Simon Haworth, Wigan's record signing, will surely need to be fully fit to provide impetus to a promotion drive. He joined colleagues who

had not played on Saturday for a gentle jog around the pitch after the match. Since Haworth, formerly of Coventry City, signed for £600,000 last October, he has been troubled by hamstring problems. Ray Mathias, the Wissen, manager can affect Wigan manager, can afford not te rush his return.

MACCESPIELD TOWN (4-4-2) R Price
— S Higher, S Payre, E Sodie, R Ingram—
A Beilly (subr D Berday, BSmm) B
Sadgerpura, N Sonvel (subr G Tombrison,
63), S Lawes (subr S Wood, 54) — J Aeley,
P Matter P Miguel MTMLETIC (5-3-2): R Cerroll — C Bradshaw, P McGibbon, C Greenal, S Batm-er, K Starp — D Lee, P Rogers, M O'Nell — S Barlow, A Lobdell Referenc J Kirkby.

A 55th-minute goal by Richard Naylor Wigan maintain Sombre Southend learn facts of life

Cambridge United... Southend United

BY ANDY STEPHENS

SOUTHEND United provided proof at the Abbey Stadium on Saturday that statistics are like a bikini. What they reveal is suggestive, but what they conceal is vital. Alvin Martin's side won more corners than Cambridge United, had as many shots on target as them. twice hit the woodwork and created the easiest goalscoring opportunity of the afternoon yet were still soundly beaten.

Cambridge, inspired by those invisible virtues of spirit and self-belief, were good value for their success. They displayed a much more acute killer instinct and, aided by two goals from John Taylor, won comfortably to stay on course for promotion from the Nationwide League third division.

Southend should have taken the lead in the 42nd minute. when Unger found himself with only the goalkeeper to beat. He shot feebly wide, though, and his distress was multiplied on the stroke of half-time when Taylor chested down a pass from Martin Butler and hit a 25-yard leftfoot volley that flew inside the

far post.
The visiting team pressed hard for an equaliser in the

were not exactly resting on their laurels and it came as no surprise when Butler, the man of the match, doubled their advantage in the 74th minute. Five minutes later Taylor, in splendid isolation, chipped the advancing Margetson to

complete the scoring. This victory leaves Cambridge one point behind Cardiff City, the leaders, with the luxury of a game in hand. However, the word promotion is best whispered in the vicinity of Roy McFarland, their manager. "We are still a million miles from the second division," he said. "I believe in the old Liverpool adage of the season not starting until Easter - when you know exactly what you've got to do." in contrast. Southend, relegated for the past two sea-

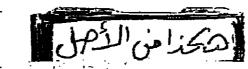
sons, languish in eighteenth place. It seems remarkable that it was only three years ago that they were more than holding their own in the first division — winning 3-0 away to Charlton Athletic and doing the double over Leicester City. Those statistics take some swallowing these days.

CAMBRADGE LINTED (4-4-2), A van Housclam — B Chenery, A Quincan, M Joseph, J
Campbel — N Musice, P Warless, T
Banjarini, Gubt. M Kort, 871, M Budier.

J Taylor (outr. R Walker, 87), M Budier.

SOUTHEND LINTED (5-2): M Margelson — M Baard, M Booly, B Huuter, R Newman, S Coleman (sub' 1 Repence, 73).

K Meher, L Linger, S Houghton — B
Conton, N Roach (sub; A Burns, 73)
Referee: D Crick.

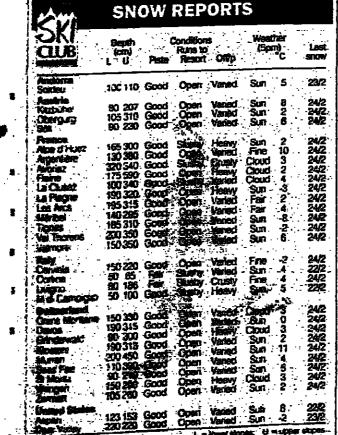


is goes

DAY MARCH

Southend ects of life

201 A V





Zamorano, right, the Internazionale forward, receives treatment for a shoulder injury during the dour meeting with Juventus at the San Siro. Photograph: Claudio Villa / Allsport

Inter look designed for heavy beating

and it is almost inconceivable that he will start the tie in Manchester. This unhappy bunch of superstars, in short, is exactly what United have been waiting for.

bringing their collec-tions to Milan this

onale will be out of town. Ron-

aldo, Roberto Baggio, Youri

Diorkaeff and the rest have

business to attend to in Man-

chester, a million miles from

the carwalks, but anyway, in

italy at least, they have

As they regrouped at their

rural retreat at Appiano

Gentile in the shadow of the

Alps yesterday, Inter were.

busy trying to rid themselves

of the haunting memories of

their dour goalless draw with

Juventus at the San Siro on

Saturday night so that they

can leave for Manchester

tomorrow with delusions of

optimism. By the end of a

game that was notable only

for its almost continuous

stream of schoolboy errors

and utter lack of invention.

movement and flair, inter's

long-suffering supporters

were hurling their pro-grammes onto the pitch from

the upper ners of the stadium.

Camp, they would have waved

white handkerchiefs. Their

players tried to put a brave face on it all. They said they

would be a different team in

the first leg of their European

Cup quarter-final at Old Traf-

ford on Wednesday. They said

they were happy with the way they had played against a

Inventus side that is itself a

pale imitation of the team that

has bestrode the European

game in recent years.

The reality, though, is that

their problems are mounting.

They are a cirib close to disar-

ray, seetering on the edge of cri-

sis and lacking direction and

helief. Ronaldo, upon whom

they seem to have become de-

pendent in attack, did not even

make the bench on Saturday

By WALTER GAMMIE

THE embrace between Geoff

Chapple, the Kingstonian manager, and Colin Lippian.

the Yeovil Town head coach.

was beaufelt. As manager

Kingstonian ...

if they had been at the Nou

already gone out of fashion.

There will never be a better chance for the side that Alex Ferguson has built to break through the psychological barrier of never having eliminated a leading European power from the competition that has become their obsession. At last, they are playing another elite side at exactly the right

left them 13 points admit of Lazio, the Serie A leaders, and languishing in sixth place. They have won only three of

Chapple gains head start

and coach, they shared much at Woking, including three

FA Umbro Trophy triumphs

at Wembley, so Chapple shared his old mate's pain

after Kingstonian had seized

a quarter-final place with a

late goal at Kingsmeadow on

"I thought it was going to be 0-0." Chapple said. "But it

is always capable of invention

their nine games this year, Zamorano charged around to each against sides struggling close to the bottom of the table. They have only won away from the San Siro twice all season. They are desperate to coax Ronaldo back to fitness after a two-month, absence nursing his injured knee, but he only began gentle training last Wednesday and the most that Mircea Lucescu, Inter's embattled interim coach, can hope for is that he might be

at Old Trafford. Without the Brazilian, Inter's attack lacks a focus for the intelligent promptings of Baggio. Djorkaefi hardly got a kick on Saturday, playing wide on the right, and Ivan

able to use him as a substitute

Baggio, as the Juventus players said, and the unexpected

was a brilliant free kick and a

ing flash of inspiration in a contest full of unyielding de-fending, committed work in midfield and a derth oficlear-

cut chances. Kofi Nyamah swung a curving free kick from the right touchline with

his left foot and Simon Stew-

art timed his run to perfection

beat Pennock Kingstonian's goal came

after Leworthy had tarned Hannigan and bounced a

shot off the bar. For Yeovil,

fence in the first half but

failed to make his chances

count on a bobbling pitch and

Fishlock thumped a second-

half free kick against the bar.

A sub-plot was supplied by referee D'Urso, who having issued bookings to Patterson, of Kingstonian, and Brown.

of Yeovil, first shrank from is-

soing merited second yellow

cards to Patterson and then

Brown for late tackles. Con-

Chapple has high ambi-

tions. He revealed a plan for a

El-million redevelopment to bring Kingsmeadow to Na-

tionwide League standards

has council support Mean-while. Wembley beckons. The Trophy is something

you get a taste for," me said.

Clive Walker's got four med-

als - I'd like to emulate that."

ALS — I. & HIKE NO CIDINAGE UPIAL
KIRKESTONIAN (3-5-2) S. Februk, — S.
Somen, M. Crossley, M. Herns — T-Mustale,
K. Pathay, G. Pathanon, G. Pfacher, K.
Myarnah — E. Alcampah, O. Leighthy,
YEONE, TOWN (3-5-2); A. Permick, — A. J.
Harniger, R. Cousins, K. Brown — O. Chander,
Germin, S. Thompson, M. Rishloot — O. Pickard, W. Pathiote.
Reference, A. D'Ulso.

sistent, at least.

Pickard got behind the de

The winner came as a blind-

brilliant header."

to beat Pennock.

little effect down the centre. For all the talk of how Jaan Stam and Ronny Johnsen would be exposed by the pace of the Italian side, that looks like cheap talk now that Ronaldo seems unlikely to feature. If Stam, as seems probable, recovers from his hamstring injury, he has nothing to fear from Zamorano. It was not all the fault of the attack. They received precious little service from a midfield that is high on attrition but low on creativity.

Diego Simeone warmed up

for his reunion with David Beckham by kicking Zinedine Zidane as often as he could but that was the extent of his contribution. Baggio, as some of the Juventus players cautioned United after the game, is always capable of invention and the unexpected and if there is a danger for Ferguson it is that Inter can hardly be any worse than they were in

ssentially. Saturday's game was a mid-table struggle that counted for little except northern Italian bragging rights. Neither is going to win the championship; each is pinning their hopes on the European Cup where they will do their utmost to raise their

Still, the signs for United are encouraging. If Inter looked sterile going forward,

Venables is

in running

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent This deal

there were also reasons to hope that United might be

able to exploit some defensive

weaknesses, too, particularly

on the flanks. On the rare occa-

sions when Thierry Henry

summoned the courage to run

at Aron Winter and Javier Zan-

etti, both ill-fitting wing-backs, they looked distinctly uncom-

fortable. Their performance, even against a Juventus side

that is eighth in Serie A. sug-

gested that they will be vulner-

able to the pace of Andy Cole

and, especially, Ryan Giggs.

inter needed a fine save from

Gianluca Pagliuca in the

dying seconds to deny Juven-

tus victory after Filippo Inza-

ghi had skipped merrily past

▲ J7632 ♥ -♦ J 10654 ♥ Q 10 3 2 ♦ KQ87 ♥ AJ8765

Contract: Six Hearts by South. Lead: king of diamonds.

says White played for one loser, and the NOEL WHITE, chairman of the Football Association's international committee, has left the door open for Terry Venables to return as England coach. Kevin Keegan, caretaker manager of the national side, has insisted he does not want the job full time and will concentrate on trying to take Fulham into the FA Carling Premiership after his fourgame run ends in June. White is viewed as one of the men behind the departure of Venables from the England job in 1996 and was believed to have been opposed to his return after the dismissal of Glenn Hoddle. However, White said yester-

day: "We will look at certain names put before us and Terry's will almost certainly be among those. I've never queried his coaching qualities and never would. Nobody is saying that Terry Venables will not be the next England coach.

He could do a good job." The FA claimed yesterday it has not been embarrassed by revelations that Keegan has used a faith healer in the past. Hoddle, his predecessor, was heavily criticised for involving Eileen Drewer, a faith healer. with the England squad. The FA is satisfied that Keegan will not involve follow his

example. Steve Double, FA spokesman, said: "Kevin stated publicly the day after he accepted the position that he would not be using faith healers."

main problem is to play it in a way to guard against four hearts with either defender. There are various ways of doing that, but starting with the ace is not one of them when you consider the rest of the hand. With the layout above, if West splits his hon-ours when you continue with a low heart towards the nine

The trump suit has to be

you have an easy task: discard one diamond on the king of spades and ruff one in the dummy before playing any more trumps. But if West plays a low heart, allowing you to win the nine, you have to go off - whether or not you play a third round of trumps. West will be able to ruff in on the third round of clubs, and another diamond from him beats the contract. Similarly. if West shows out on the first round of heart you are in

trouble if East started with two or fewer clubs. The solution is to arrange to keep a small trump in dummy. Play a low heart

a. A musician

JULIENNE

b. A revolutionary

a. A tart

and put in the nine if West plays low, and if East then shows out play on clubs. If West is void you take the king of hearts and continue with a heart from dummy.

☐ The BBL have announced the British teams for the 44th Generali European Championships which will be held in Malta at the end of June. The Open team is: John Collings, Martin Jones, Gary

Heather Dhondy, Liz

for a berth in the World Championships to be held in Bermuda early in 2000.

section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

HARMONIAN a. An accent b. Sulky b. A desert heretic c. A chest c. An instrument

HANDSEL a. Gingerbread b. To present c. A curved chisel

Answers on page 46

Wallace grabs hat-trick in Rangers romp

By PHIL GORDON

thing by halves. They strengthened their grip on the Scottish Premier League by demolish-ing a Kilmarnock side that had conceded only 15 goals until the encounter last night at Rugby Park. Rod Wallace led the rout to restore his side's ten-point lead over Celtic with a hat-trick, two of which came in the final minutes, alone with a sublime finish from Jonatan Johansson.

The early goals from Neil McCann had underlined Kilmarnock's lack of belief, but they chased a consolation and were undone. Johansson's breakaway goal in the 85th minute stretched the margin to three and then Wallace compounded the nightmare with two further late goals.

Eight weeks ago, when the Scottish Premier League broke for its winter shutdown, these two clubs shared the same ambition. However, the hiatus had ruined Kilmarnock's rhythm to the extent that a four-point deficit on the leaders had expanded to 15 points because of a sequence of three games without a win.

In the same period, Rangers took maximum points from four games, scoring 17 goals in the process. Dick Advocaat's team wear the mantle of champions-elect with comfort and underlined the reason why after just five minutes, when they took the lead. The goal owed everything to

Barry Ferguson, the Rangers This week, it is United; ten midfield player, who jumped to his feet after a foul by Baker United must seize their and sprayed a quick free kick opportunity. Inter are there to to the right wing to release Anbe taken on Wednesday. By drei Kanchelskis. The Russia the return leg, Ronaldo may be back, their morale may player sped away from his pursuers before delivering a have been repaired. They are low ball across the face of goal, where Neil McCann was on down now and United must hand to thump it high into the ness hitherto unseen to ensure

they stay down and go back to Just six minutes later Kanchelskis left Kilmarnock chasing shadows again before picking out Stephane Guivarch, but his right-foot shot flew just wide of the upright. The home team had been hoping that the skills of lan

Durrant, their midfield play-

er, would pose a threat, but he

With the first half of the elite

tournament at Linares almost

completed. Garry Kasparov

has maintained a slight lead

over a dangerous pack of pursuing rivals. After six

rounds the scores are as

follows: Kasparov (Russia) 4; Anand (India) and Kramnik (Russia) 3.5; Adams (England), Svidler (Russia) and Topalov (Bulgaria); Leko (Hungary) 2.5; Ivanchuk

Michael Adams, Britain's

representative in the tourna-

White: Michael Adams

Black: Garry Kasparov

Sicilian Defence

was anonymous in the open-ing half hour. Indeed, had Tony Vidmar taken advantage of a precise corner from Giovanni van Bronckhorst, then Rangers could have doubled their lead - but he scooped his shot over the bar from six yards out.

Kilmarnock eventually reversed the flow of pressure, but could not create a clear chance for themselves and Stefan Klos, the Rangers goalkeeper, simply did not have a save to ward off the bitter cold.

Gordon Marshall, the Kilmarnock goalkeeper, could not say the same. He was forced to produce a fine stop in the 48th minute, pushing a fierce, dipping shot from Kanchelskis over the bar, after the former Manchester United player had cut inside from the



McCann: opening goal

McCoist and Wright, Kilmarnock's forwards, had both been reduced to spectators by this stage, which perhaps contributed to McCoist squandering a fine opportunity in the 63rd minute to put his side back in contention.

A low cross by Burke on the right begged to be finished. but McCoist, a former Rangers player, struck his shot straight at Klos.

Wallace, McCoist's heir at Rangers, showed how it should be done in the 74th minute as he ruthlessly drove in McCann's cross to double Rangers' advantage.

KILMARNOCK (44-2) G Marshall — S Hambon Isab. A Michel, Toman, K McGoune, R Maragomene M Baker — A Schot, 3 Refu (Duran M Robe – 4 Mo-Cost, sub. M Roberts, Soman) i Mirght RANGERS AS 2: SNEE — SPECT IND SNEEDERS AS 2: SNEE — SPECT IND SNEEDERS GIVEN BOOKERS JACKER KENNEYSKE GIVEN BOOKERS JACKER SCHEELER TO NAMEEN — RIVERE SIGNATER

KEENE on CHESS

Ng5 B14 Nt3

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Beckham, if he evades the

clutches of Simeone, should be

able to take advantage of Win-

ter's lack of suitability for the

job, to supply a string of cross-

es for Cole and Dwight Yorke.

Lucescu, a Romanian who is

nicknamed "The Gypsy" by

the Italian media because of

his swarthy looks, admitted

that his side desperately need

a win as their trials pile up.

days after, they face the Milan

display a streak of ruthless-

the city of catwalks in rags.

Internazionale (3-42-1) 6 Pagluca — F Colonnese, D Smoc, F Galarse — J Zanetti, D Smeone, B Cauet, A Winter — Y Doricaeff (sub. A Pato, C Intain), R Baggio — I Zamorano (sub. N Ventola, 69)

JUNETUS (4-3-1-2. A Penus — A Scinct-eli, 1 Tudor, C Ferrara, 2 Meteoric (s.b. A Di Luco, 89) — A Cordia, D Deschamps, E Da-das — 2 Zidane — J Esnader (sub F Inta-gh, 60), T Henry (sub D Fonseca, 75).

By RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Linares

Kramnik.

Linares 1999

e4 Nc3

3 g3 4 Bg2 5 d3

7 Nge2 8 h3 9 0-0

il involves a slight wrinkle in the well-known safet nearts. Plan the play in Six Hearts.							
ler South	East-West game	Teams					
	♠ A K 18 5						
	♥ K94						
	≎ 2						

Hyett, Alan Mould, Gerald Tredinnick, Stuart Tredinnick, captain: Chris Dixon, coach: David Burn. The Women's team is: Pat Davies, Nicola Smith,

McGowan, Sandra Landy, Abbey Walker, captain: Jimmie Arthur, coach: Phil King.
The teams are competing

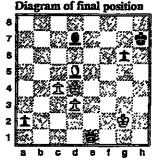
☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend

24 Qd1 25 h5

26 h6 27 Ne6

Qxe5 Rb1+ Rb2 Qxb2 Qd4+ Bxa4 hxg6 Qxe5 Be8 Qh6+ Qxh6 Qc1+ Br7

ment, had a storming start but fell back after a loss to Kasparov (given today) followed by another loss to White resigns



Keene online

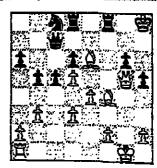
You can send me your queries. puzzles, problems and games direct by e-mail. The address is keenechessaol.com. The best contributions from Times readers will be published either here or in the Saturday Times Weekend column.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position

is from the game Capece -Astengo, Genau 1998. How did White complete his kingside attack with a fine regrouping manoeuvre?



Dublin 55 (pen) 38,799

Bookset: Le Saux.

Aloisi 25, 73 Boateng 51, 84

a Forest: M. Crossiey, M. Jean, S. Siensaas. coalair, S. Gemmill, S. Stone, C. Edwards, C. Palen plonk, J. Carcheville (subt. N. Shipperley 62).

(2) 2 LIVERPOOL Owen 77 34,822

Unerpact () Jones, V Heggen (sutt. 5 McMasaman 9 Kvarme, D Maseo, P Ratio, S I Bjørnebye, P Berger (su Riedle 80), J Radkrapp, P Ince (saft J Farri 48), M Owa

ationwide

FIRST DIVISION

(0) 8 BURNONGHA Ndkovu 38 Adebota 85

(1) 2 HUNDERSHELD Gray 59 Hamilton 90

CRYSTAL PALACE (1) 1 BARRISLEY Multing 24 17,027

SECOND DIVISION

(1) 1 MAK CITY

(1) 1 READING

(0) 1 SALSTOL R 4,235

(0) 1 BLACKPOOL 4.646

WALRAIT

(1) 2 OLDHAM

Rammel 35 6.172

Mardon 45 12,965

McGregor 8 Owers 54 Connolly 67

(0) 0 FULHAM Horsfeld 40 Hayles 45 Peschisolido 52

THIRD DIVISION

ITON (0) 1 LEYTUN ONBERT 85 70 Griffiths 84 (pen) Lockwood 71 Senti aft: D Smith (Lockwood 71 A Arnatt (Brightan) 45

(D) 2 CARLISLE Stevens 50 2,450

(0) 8 HULL D Brown 54

(O) D ROTHERHAM

(1) 1 CARDET Legg 76

SCUNTHORPE

WOLVES

COLCHESTER

N Gregory 8 4,686

LINCOLN

Holmes 71

Douglas 54

NOTTS COUNTY

PRESTON

BARKET 2.072

BRENTFO Bryan 79 4,783

CHESTER

HALIFAX 4,455

HARTLEPOOL 2,680

Psacock 26, 57 3,206

Peaks 44 2,431

Nogan 24 Jackson 65

Jellere 57 32,574

Evertos: T Mydys, N. Ball, O Discourt, O Waston

N Barwiy, M Mateczzi, D Weir, J Oster (suit: M Branch 83snin). D Cadamarter, F Jeffers. Wantdedow A Saffran, K Curringtom, C Perry, D Rizcland B Thanker, R Earle, E Barley, A Roberts, M Gayle, M Hoghes J Euell (sub: N Arder) 32).

Manuchester Utel: P Schmeichel, G Heville, H Berg, R Johnson, P Newille (1907: D Irwin 78min), D Beckbans, M Shot (sedt: R Keame 46), P Scholes, R Glygs, D Yonie, O G Solskjær (sub: A Cale 57).

Southampher: P Jones, J Dodd, K Monteru (sub: F Bersil 50) G Landekrem, P Colleter, C Marsden, M Onldey, W Bridge, J Haghes, J Besse, E Ostenstad (sub: M Le Tissier 67).

Middlestoraugh: M Schwester, R Stockdale (sub; C Harrison 90mm), C Cooper, G Polisier, B Victors, D Gordon, R Muscoc, P Gascoligne (sub: N Maddison, 46), A Townsond, H Ricad, M

SCOTLAND

(1) 3 MIDDLESBROOM Musice 78 24,534

r: K Prosegnan, P Atherton, E Thomes, IN Alexandersson, W Jonk, D Sonner,

McCann 5 Wallace 75, 87, 90 Johansson 85

FIRST DIVISION

Panel Vardict: HT Score draw. FT: Away win).

SECOND DIVISION

(1) 2 PARTICK

(1) 2 CLYDE

(1) 4 BRECKER Kemigan 27 219

(0) 6 BERMACK D Smith 5

(D) 1 DUMBARTON Brackford 7

COWDENSE/ Brackey 15 649

Nationwide

(1) 3 HEREFORD

(O) B HAYES

(0) 1 LEEK Eles 83

May 4, 75 Payne 45, 57

Dolby 70 (pen)

D L F A W D L F A PB L F A PB

Jones 15

(1) 1

(1) 3

(O) 0

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(1) 1

THIRD DIVISION

Convery 11, 67 Cerrigan 57

Bootend: Colleger, Le Tissier.

Booked: Histockille, Carboos.

SHEFFELD WED Booth 11, 80 Somer 77

CELTIC Burley 74 Larsson 7

DUMDEE 7.245 HEARTS 13,957

McCulloch 48 6,094

Fergus 5.010

RATTH 1,913

FORFAR Honeyman & Brand 61

Lasile 49 Townsley 59, 78

Price 40, 56 888

ALBROW.

Donaldson 12, 49 McStay 73 432

EAST STIRLING

Laidlew 21 Ward 52 Smith 87 Kennedy 83

MONTROSE

QUEEK'S PARK P Martin 88

R Hamilton 9 Watters 64 Crarg 71, 84

DUNCASTER

DOVER 1,035

Selley 73 C Simpson 90 733

Kimmins 78 943

KETTERING Williams 54 2,371

TELFORIO Huckerby 81 749

Retilering Criebentam Rushiden Dover Hayest Steventage Yeordi Megsalonken Hedmestord Modewach Modewach

(0) 1

(0) 1

Duerden 14, 50 Penney 56 (pen)

Sent off: D Sten

(B) B

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(1) 1

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(1) 1

(1) 3

(2) 3

(1) 3

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

TOTTEMBAM Sherwood 69

Beated: For.

sase Sent oft: J Edinburgh (Totlerhem Hotspur) 90

Tallenham Hotspar, | Waller, M Tarleso, R Vegs, S Campbel, J Edinburgh, D Anderson, S Fraund, T Sherwood, D Girob, S Nerson, C Agnistrong (sub: J Dominguez Bilmith

OVERSEAS PANSSM LEAGUE: Athletic Bilbao O Celta Vigo O. Atletic ITALIAN LEAGUE: Bari 1 Caglieri 1; Empoli 0 Internacionale 0 Juventus 0; Parma 3 Perugia Madrid () Real Oviedo (): 1 Tenerile 1; Recing Sa Madrid 2; Reel Zeragoz Real Mallorca
Valencia.
Cella Vigo
"Deportivo La C.
Arriedo Salbao,
Real Machid
Real Zaragoza.
Real Ovisco
Real Betis.
Atlético Machid
"Real Socieder,
Eapaño!
Racing Santem
Villarree!
Real Valladolid
Salamancs
Alawis
Estramackura 2 Cheises 3 Arsensi 4 Aston Villa 5 Leeds 6 West Ham 7 Liverpool a Derby 9 Wimbledon 10 Shell Wed 11 Newcastle 12 Totterham 14 Leicester Beyern Munich
Beyer Laverlusen
Kalseralautern
TSV 1860 Munich
Hertha Bertin
Borussie Dorhmur
VII. Wolfsburg
Werder Bertinen
SV Harnburg
VIIS Stuttgert
SC Preblung
Schelke 04
VII. Bochurn 19 Southamoth 28 5 2 2 Bradford 3 Inswich 4 Bolton 5 Birminghem 33 6 Watford 34 7 Wolves 33 8 Grimsby 32 9 West Brom 10 Norwich 11 Shelf Utd 12 Huddersild 19 QPR 20 Oxford Utd 21 Port Valle 22 Bury 23 Bristol City 1 Putham 2 Preston 3 Walsali 4 Gillingham 5 Bournamth 12 Lutori 13 Blackpool 14 Wreshern 15 Colcheste 18 Burnley 19 Oldham THIRD DIVISION

Rivaldo, left, the Barcelona forward, prepares to meet the challenge of Bjorklund, of Valencia, in the Spanish League on Saturday. Barcelona's 4-2 home defeat was their third loss in ten days to Valencia but they remain top NON-LEAGUE AND NATIONAL LEAGUES

EYMAN UNIBOND PRIBMER DIVISION: Accumpton Stanley 2 Spennymoor 3; Bamber Bridge 1 Winstord 1; Bishop Auddard 1 Lancaster 1; Chortey 2 Gatachead 2; Pitotley 1 Marine 1; Hyde 3 Guiseley 1; Laigh RMI 3 Blyth Spartans 2; Stalybridge 2 Gainsborough 0; Worksop 2 Rundom 1. Bamber Bridge 33 15 12 6 55 40 57
Alfirichism 25 16 7 5 50 22 95
Worksop 30 16 6 8 43 33 54
Gasschead 32 15 8 9 58 44 53
Winslord Uld 32 12 12 8 46 37 48
Hyde Uld 30 13 6 9 46 31 47
Guissley 28 14 3 9 44 33 45
Gainsborough 31 13 5 13 45 44 44
Whitby Town 27 11 10 6 56 48 52 41
Errifey 27 10 10 7 34 30 40
Marins 34 8 15 11 5 55 39
Leigh RMI 27 9 11 7 45 40 38
Skelybridge 30 9 10 11 41 59 35
Spennymoor 83 9 7 17 44 52 34
Runcom 27 7 12 8 30 36 38
Colleyn Bay 28 8 6 12 37 46 30
Chonley 39 8 16 12 37 46 30
Chonley 39 7 12 8 30 36 38
Colleyn Bay 28 8 6 12 37 46 30
Chonley 39 15 15 5 57 57 29
REST DIMISSION Alleston 0 Fladon C, Astron 6 PWDLFAPts Basinostoke Slough Hendon Harrow Boro Chesham Dulwich Wallon & H Bishop's S. 28 5 7 16 38 69 22
FRST DMSION: Barton 0 Leatherhead 0; Berkhamsted 0 Yeeding 3; Braintine 0 Wernbley 1; Carvey Island 2 Croydon 1; Meaidenthead 0 Biognor Regis 0; Molessey 0 Romford 1; Oxford City 0 Grays 0; Unbinding 5 Whyelesle 0; Worthing 1 Chertsey 1. Postporauch Leyton Permant v Staines. Second division: Abingtion Town 3 Hartow 2; Bastring 1 Thame 1; Challont St Petar 1 Bedford Town 2; Horsham 4; Challont St Petar 1 Bedford Town 2; Horsham 3; Witham 3; Northwood 2 Brackmell 1; Tooting and Mitchen 2 Edigware 1; Windsor and Bon 1 Hungerford 0. Postporaed: Benstead v Hertord. Third division: Camberley 3 East Thurook 3; Clapton 0 Chestham 0; Contribin-Casuale 2 Radowell Heath 1; Ford 1 Egom and Ewell 2; Hornburch 3 Thirg 2; Kingsbury 1 Croydon 0; Lawes 4 Egham 1; Southall 4 Dorlning 4; Tibury 0 Aweley 1; Wingste and Finchley 0 Ware 3. FIRST DIVISION: Allegton 0 Fixton 0; Ashton 6 PRIST UNVISION: Altreton O Picaton C, Agricon S Whitely Bay 3; Burscrugh 1 Bredford PA 1; Eastwood Town 2 Radicitie C; Farsley Celbc 2 Congleton 2; Gretina 2 Droyksden 5; Harrogete Town 1 Hucknall C; Maldock Town 1 Great, Harwood 2; Netherleid Kendal 1 Wilton C; Trafford 1 Stocksbridge PS 3.

DR MARTENS PREMIER DIVISION: Bromagrove 0 Saisbury 2; Dorchester 1 Cambridge City 1; Gloucester 2 King's Lyrar 1; Granthern 3 Rodinwell 0; Grassley 2 Atherstone 1; Besston 3 Crawley 1; Merthy 2 Numeaton 1; Tarmworth 1 Hastogs 5; Weymouth 0; Burton 0; Worcester 3 Halestowen 4. PWDL FAPts SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Float dies elon: Bernet 3 Portsmouth 3; Cambridge Uto 2 Swindon 3; Colchester Utol 2 Luton 0; Gellinghem 0; Bournemouth 2; Leyton Chent 2 Brentford 0; Oxford Utol 0 Southend Utol 3; FA PREMIER ACADEMY LEAGUE: Under-19

Reading 3 Bristol 1; Wycombe 1 Brighton 0.

Bromagrove 31 6 4 21 28 60 22
MIDLAND DIVISION: Bedworth 1 Soilhuil Boro 2; Biston 5 Bloowich 2; Evenham 2 Hinddey 2; Moor Green 0 VS Rugby 1; RC Warwich 0 Newport AFC 0; Reddisch 2 Stanford AFC 0; Westion-super-Marra 4 Sutton Coldfield Town 2; Wisboch 3 Stourhridge 3. Postporned: Cinderford v Shepshed Dynemo; Paget v Clevedon. Southern division: Andower 2 Beticok 2; Chelmistord 4 Newport IoW 2; Chenosster 3 Flost 5; Eith and Betwedere 0; Corby 2; Fisher London 0 Ashtord 1; Folkestone Indicate 3 Yatar 2; Margase 2 Brackley 0; Raumds 7 Dartlord 0; Stitingbourne 0 Hevark and Watshoodle 1; Wilney 1 St Londord S. Covertry. BANKS'S BRENERY LEAGUE Premier del BANKS'S BREMENY LENGULE Primmer del-dence Bustleholme 3 Luclow C, Craciley 2 Brientey HB 2; Dudley Town 2 Walsell Wood 1; Lye 0 Smejhwick C, Starlford 2 Kingbon 3; Star 6 Wolvethampton 0; Trividele 1 Tipton 2; West-fields 3 Darlaston 0. Postgonect Etingshall v Malvenr, Wolverhampton Casuals v Gornal. Cohem S, Reacting 3 Bedon 5; Sandhust 1 Nothern 5; Reacting 3 Bedon 5; Sandhust 1 Nothern 5; Viding Sports 3 Goderang and Guildord 1, Postponed: Raynes PV v Ash.

ARTHURAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Old Reptonisms 3 Exonisms 2. Fleet division: Ademinanters 4 Wellingbursters 1: Haberdressins; 1 Wildelms 2. Haberdressins; 2 Lanching 2. and Valescopies 1; Warey 1 St (Borelos 2: MTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Barwell 3; Stationd 1; Chasesown 0 Waterhell 0; Hatesown Harries 3 Stapenhill 1; Kings Notton 1 Peted Ville 0; Cicloury 5 Bioliners 63 Michaels 1; Pershore 1 Rocester 2; Shahai 7 2 Rushell Olympic 1; Staupport 1 Sandwell 2; Wadnasseld 2 Kingarsley 1. Poetponed: Bridgnorth v West Aticiands Police.

FAUNERO THOPETY FIFTH ROUND: Boston 2 Altinohem 0: Che-terhiem 3 Hendon 0: Dag and Red 1 St Albans 2; Emby 2 Whitby 0: Hildrin 1 Forest Green 2; Kingstonien 1 Yeord 0: Notifishedh 3 Colwyn Bay 1: Wolning 0 Soutinport 0. Prisonant unisonate Musistry 4 Justicipato (c. Aylesbury 4 Bishop's Storton' 2, Pasingstole 1 Hampion Cr. Boreham Wood O Billericay Cr. Gravesend 2 Walton and Heisham Cr. Herrow O Slough 2. Purilest 1 Bromley Cr. Sulton 2 Dulmich O. Aurugauren 1 verunt (r. Normach 3 Cowyn Bay 1: Wolfing of Sushport 0.

NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE: First division: Glossop North End 2 Susmerscale 2; Holker Old Boys 1 Atherton I.R 1; Kidsgröve 2; Worldoglon (r. Laek CS OB 1 Mossley 2: Manne Road 1 Atherton Collieries (r. Nantwich 1 Ciliteroe 2; Ramsbottom 1 Bootle 2; Rossendale 3 Cheadle 2 League Cup: Sernifinals: Prescot Cebies 2 Newcastle Town (r. St. Hellers 1 Vauchelf G M 2.

Helens 1 Vacohell G M 2.

ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE: Flest division: Billingham Synthonia 1 Consest 0; Chester-le-Street 1 Guisborough 0; Crook 0 Seaham Red Ster 0; Essington 1 Billingham Town 3; Jamow Roosing 1 Dunston Federation 2; Shildon 1 Newcaste Blus Star 2; South Shields 0 Bedilington Terriers 5; Tow Law 2 Morpeth 1; West Auckland 0 Marske 2. COMPLETE MUSIC HELLENIC LEAGUE: COMMUNICIPE MINISTO FELL MINISTORIO DE CONTROLO DE MANDON SUPERMINIO DE SUPERMINIO DE COMPUNITA DE COMP

Postponed: Amondstury v Burntern.
ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE MEDIAND COMESNATION: Premier division: Bolenal Swifts 3
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Ferguson 2: Dudley Sports 0 Coleshill 4;
Handerhan Timbers 0 Chestyn Hey 1; Kenilworth 2 Studiey BKL 1; Meir KA 1 Feckenham
0. Postponed: Alvecturch y Southam: Kings
Heath v Highgate. Challenge Cup: Fourth
round: Tramblemill Rec 0 Alveston 4. round: Thirmblemill Rec () Alveston 4.

JENSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE:
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Felerahlern 1 Harwich and Partiseton () Felerahlere Port and Town 2 By 1; Halstead 1 Dies ()
Meddon () Gorleston () Sudbury Town 3
Newmarket (); Sudbury Warderers () Ipswich (); Warboys () Weaton 2 Halon 2;
Woodbridge () Great Yemmouth 2.

JENSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Totton 3 whitchurch (); GAT 2 Treathram 2:
Bournemouth () Portsmouth 4; Christhurch ()
Lymington and New Milbon 3; Cowes Sports 3
Bernetion; Heath (); East Cowes 2 Downton 1;
Eastleigh () Wirriborne 1; Parsham 1 Morrey
Fields 1; Gosport 1 Aic Newbury 1; Hamble
ASSC 0 Brockenhurst 1.

NORTHEEN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE.

ASSC 0 Brockenhunst 1.
NORTHERN COUNTISS EAST LEAGUE
Premier division: Amminorpe Wetter 0
Liversedge 3: Amold 4 Eccleshill 1; Denaby 2
Hollann C, Garforth 1 Bigg 3; Glasshoughton
Wetters 1 Stareley MW 1; North Fentby 6
Mottby MW 3; Osselt Albion 1 Setby C, Pontefeact Cole 2 Polosing C, Sheffled 1 Banton 0;
Thackley 1 Osselt Town 3. Thackey 1 Ossett Town 2.

IMMERIVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS
EAGLIE: Premier division: Arleavy 0 Beaconsfield Sycob 1; Bardingside 2 Harperden 1;
Brache Sparta 3 Russip Manor 2; Buckinghern
Athletic 2; Brimsdown 1; Hillington 1 Miston
Keynes 1; London Dolney 3 Islington 5 Mary's
D; New Brachrell St. Peter 1 Potters Bar 1;
Royston 0 Brook House 3; Somersett Ambury
0 Welwyn Garden 0; St. Margaretsbury 3
Hoddiesdon 3. Postponed: Hanngey vTaddington.

Toddington.

CLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Enfield OG 1 Oid Ignalians 3; Old Aloysians 5 Glyn OB C Old Salvations as 3 Old Meadonians 2; Old Yaughanians 3. Old Hismotonians 0. Post-pomed: Old Tenisonians v Old Buctowillians. Santor fast division: Latymer OB 4 Procent OB C Old Dorfarians 2 Old Substudiens 5; Old Tenisonians 5; Old Tenisonians 5; Old Tenisonians 5; Old Tenisonians 5; Old Religations 0; Old Religations 0; Old Religations 0; Old Religations 2 Shane

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AFA SENIOR CUP: Fourth round: Old Bromleians 1 Carahalit borough 2 (ast). ation 3, Old Saleslana 4 Notice SCREWITX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier dis-sion: Bideford 1 Bristol Menor Farm 0; Bridport 2 Bistrop Sutton 2; Color 0 Bridgwetter 3; Melk-

stem 3 Emore 1; Odd Down 1 Barnsleple 1; Tweton 1 Taunton 2; Westbury 0 Mangossield 1. Postponed: Keynsham v Backwell. UNLET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First diskeion: Butgess Hill 6 Seteey 0; Chichester 3 Britsolbridge Heath 0; Pagham 3 Halisham 0; Selblash 1 Ringmer 1; Shoreham 0 Horsham YMCA4. Postponed: Eastbourne Town v Port-field: Redhill v Whitehawi. John O'Hara League Cup: Fourth retand: Wick 0 Eastbourne 1 Jaep.

T jacq.

TuleLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE:
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Urdswood 1; Erifn 1 Deal 2; Faversham 2
Thribridge Wells 2; Hythe 1 Henne Bay 1;
Sode Green 2 Shappey 0; Tharmssmeed 2
Chathem 0; Whitstable 1 Ramagate 2.
Pretponed: Cartesbury v Greenwich.

FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National
ovision: Bradford 1 Southampton Scients 0;
Croydon 2 Liverpool 1; Everton 2 Milwaif 0.
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on v Doncaster. PA WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Northern division Arnold O Leeds 2, Berkheimsted O Aston Vita 2, Other Matches Postponed, Southern dylaton; Barry 1 Brighton 1; Langlord 6, Jamet C, Leyton Orient 1 Three Bridges 1; Jeeding Royals 4 Ipewich C; Whitahawk 4 Vimbledon O.

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FORECAST: Half-times no claims required — winnings son; automatically — forecast is low loss score draws and 17 no-score draws



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6 Dumbarton 26 3 4 5 14 15 6 4 3 20 16 35 +3

7 East Stirling 28 4 7 3 22 16 3 3 6 16 18 31 +4

8 Queen's Pk 27 4 5 3 16 14 3 4 8 15 20 30 -3

9 Cowdenbth 28 4 2 8 15 22 2 3 7 9 23 23 21

10 Montrose 27 4 4 5 20 21 2 1 11 12 36 23 25

VERNONS LOTTERY FOOTBALL GAME RESULTS FROM SATURDAY'S MATCHES: There were nine score draws: Eventor v Wimbledon; Totlenham v Derby, Norwich v Sheff Utd; Wolverhampton v Huddersfield; Chesterfield v Men City; Colchester v Reading, Brentiord v Scarborought, Rochdale v Cardist, Motherwell v Dunfermline. Payouts on eight, seven, str and five score draws. This weeks estimated pay out for: Eight score draws: 2 witness each £28,219. Seven score draws: 34 winners each £452.50. Six score draws: 701



POOLS CHECK



No excuses for Johnson

r. . .

Timid BBC finally loses its nerve on match point

o you decide to put money into a tennis tournament that contains 30 players whose bankability is distinctly hohum, but it also has Tim and Greg. And certainly both are splendid players and splendid chaps and, in this country, most hugely watchable. They are cast-iron box-office success. But neither of them is a stone-cold certainty to make the final, or even the semi-final, the big weekend days of

your tournament. So what do you do? It is the most anguishing thing for anyone involved in the business of sport. Sport is attractive because it is ultimately unpredictable. Good business practice is all about the ability to

predict, to see around the next corner. That is how you get ahead of the game.

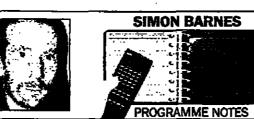
In other words, sport makes money because its unpredictability is so marketable. But it is hard to cope with as a business, because you can't predict it. This is a simple paradox that lies at the heart of sport

Television is an aspect of sport biz, and a very important one. The BBC bought up the week's big tennis event. which seemed to be held in a disused Toys R Us warehouse in Battersea Park. It had Tim and Greg on home soil, so it was an obviously good idea to televise it. But what if they don't reach the final? The BBC invested money in the tourna-

ment, but not faith. They feared the unpredictability too much. In short, they bottled it. This robustly timorous ap-

proach seemed to be well and truly justified when Tim Henman went out in the first round. This is precisely the sort of result that has sport's money men screaming in anguish. You can supply burgers on demand and a burger is always a burger, but sport has a will of its own. You never know what you are going to get. You never have control of your own product. Tim's out? Well, that's sports biz

It's great for mere punters, of course. Who is around the mext corner? It is absolutely great, not knowing. Every



switch on a television with live sport before us, we might be about to watch the best match we have seen. We know we almost certainly won't. But that little question, that vast chasm of unpredictability, is what brings us back to sport

And the BBC knew that a live final with Tim or Greg - could God be wonderful this week and give us both? - was going to be very watchable in-deed. But with neither, it would all be the most crashing bore for anyone save serious tennis buffs. And so the BBC lost its nerve, scheduled a live rugby league match and gave

us extended highlights. All right, the thing was live on BBC Choice, but most of us haven't got that yet. And Greg Rusedski made the final, which made it a mainstream

sport happening. And the BBC had it, but they didn't put it out; at least they didn't put it out live on Sunday Grand-

Instead, we had highlights two hours late. We missed 24 games altogether. From the way the package was put together, you could effortlessly predict what was happening and which way the games were going to go. This was the case until well into the third set. I couldn't get my mind on the case until it was 3-3 in the

It was pretty poor television. then. A pity, because it seemed to be an absolute cracker of a match. The BBC couldn't have known that. They couldn't have predicted with 100 per

cent certainty that Greg would make the final and that it would be a belter. So they played cautious.

It was a horrible decision to have to make, but the fact of the matter is that the Beeb got it wrong. Rusedski lost out in a hectic and splendid third set against Richard Krajicek, despite one of the most outrageous pieces of gamesman-ship — in the strict Potterian sense of the term - seen on television for some time. It was great stuff.

1 sometimes hear people moaning about Greg and Tim: they don't win every tournament they play in, they have been disappointing, neither has won a grand-slam event, they are maddeningly incon-

even Greg. But hey, chaps. We have two Brits in the top ten and absolutely none busting a gut to take their places. Let us just enjoy these two while we have them.

Greg and Tim are living national treasures and the way the two are inextricably linked adds an extra dimension to it all. Their rivalry is a perpetual stimulus to each. one player waxing as the other wanes, until the balance tips back the other way again. We should all revel in this odd pair and do everything we can to enjoy them. That includes those who bring us sporting television. Brings us all the Tim and Greg you can. It's not as if they'll be around for ever.

'And the

That's my ball, and I'm taking it home



ball had a very good game. Very active. Quite nippy'

Ball and scrawl: Truss receives her illegibly signed memento from Nigel Gibbs of Watford, while (right) her fluorescent, sponsored version, after successfully avoiding the net, is caught unawares as Howe of Swindon wallops in the winner

eing a football sponsor has never appealed to me particularly. Perhaps it is the cynic in me, but whenever I notice in the match pro-gramme that Dean Gammidge's kit is generously sponsored by "Frankie and Alan" a frisson tickles my spine. Such naive, unquestioning selflessness. I have this persistent image, you see, of those poor saps Frankie and Alan answering the door one Saturday morning mid-season to find all Dean Gammidge's laundry in a

big basket on the step. "You're the kit people, right? I'll be back for it this afternoon," says the delivery man. "No starch in the

Thus, when I was asked to be honorary match ball sponsor for Watford v Swindon Town on Friday, I initially hedged a bit. I assumed there was a catch. But no. said the nice woman from Watford on the phone. I had won the deal fair and square in a business card draw, it was worth £400, and I could attend the match with three friends, have dinner in the restaurant (wine extra) and take home

the match ball, signed by the players. Wow. To take home the very ball used in the match; have a little display cabinet built; instal a spotlight! People would say I was "deeply sad", wouldn't they? Which is, of course, in football terms, the highest compliment you

However, there certainly was a eatch. It was that you can't get to Watford on the M25 on a Friday night unless you set out the night before. So instead of treating your friends to a free leisurely dinner at Vicarage Road, you make them sit in rainy traffic jams and watch the hours tick by. You then arrive at the ground ten minutes before kick-off in a heightened emotional state, ravenous with hunger, and more than ready to shoot the inevitable obstructive jobsworth with a walkie-talkie who won't let you

park your car. But there was an unexpected benefit to this anguish. A plus side to being late and angry and frustrated. It was that although the jobsworths were naturally out in force (Elton John himself was once denied a parking space at Warford), I discovered, after nearly three years in this grindingly unhelpful footie business, a glorious open-sesame. "I must get through, I'm the maich ball sponsor," I announced. And astonishingly, it worked.

To someone who has never before persuaded a stadium steward to use the teeniest amount of initiative on her behalf, here was a revelation. Someone let me park my car; someone else helped us scoot through the wrong stand, rather than go right round the stadium to another entrance. It was

Forget being from The Times, incidentally; in taking the logical path from A to B at a sporting event, full accreditation and urgent professional necessity cut no ice whatever. In my desperation at the World Cup last year, where I spent five weeks battering my head against bolted doors, I finally memorised the French for "Let me through with this plasma" - a last-ditch ruse that would, of course, have required me to fill plastic bags with pints of my own blood, but on balance would





definitely have been worth it. Anyway, we got in finally, puff, pant. Rain was falling on the perfect pitch; just under 9,000 people had turned out the remainder of the usual crowd staying home to

watch it on telly. We saw Watford not score at all, and Swindon score once. At half-time we are the dinner (very good roast beef and veg) and I calmed down enough to get quite enthralled watching the ball itself (my ball) flying about. "Yellow for a night game, I suppose," I pointed out excitedly to my chums, handing them binoculars. "I can't see any signatures on it yet,

though, can you?" And the ball had a good game. Very active, quite nippy. Swindon's Bobby Howe caught it unawares in the closing minutes of the first half and scored with it, but otherwise it kept out of the net despite several close shaves. I started wondering whether it should have a pet name. Bobby Ball.

Benny Ball. I also worried what would be the consequences if (as often occurs) the ball went out of play and another was thrown in. Which ball did I get? Then, scanning the programme, I discovered the poleaxing news that there was a second match ball sponsor, "Watford Council and the Wiseman Family". What? The Wisemans get the match ball as well? Good grief. Nobody mentioned anything about a time share.

As is perhaps becoming clear, being match ball sponsor is not an ideal way to watch a football match. You get distracted by the wrong things, such as whether the ball is getting too wet for the signatures to stick. In the second half Swindon's George Ndah wore a worrying bandage on his right hand — would be still be able to sign? I was vaguely aware of the Hornets doing their best to equal-ise — buzz. buzz — but mainly I was concerned with tracking the adventures of Brucie Ball or Brian Ball (Billy Ball?), wondering how much to insure it for, and musing why there are so few auctions of

o you will be glad to know that Barry Ball is safely before me as I write, and of course it is not the real match ball at all. It's a white Watford FC ball (size 5) and I'm dead proud, though having spent two days studying the wild scribbles, I must report that an annotated

match ball might be even better.

individual vote?

E-mail, including a postal address and daytime telephone number, should be sent to: sport.letters@the-times.co.uk

match balls at Christie's.

There's a signature that might be N. Wright, but I've squinted from all angles and it still looks more like Hilary. A few of the others are bear no relation to the known personnel of the match. "A. Belly", for example, is very clear, but I'm sure I'd remember if he played. Meanwhile those lesser known players "M. Lagst" and "Littlie Gfein!" have signed with admirable flourish.

Still, it was a new footie experience, and Watford were charming, and it was my own fault for underestimating the traffic. As I gaze now in wonderment at Bruno Ball, I must admit that my most treasured possession remains a book in-scribed by Arthur Miller, but who knows? When Littlie Gfeinl be-comes the new Alan Shearer, I can rethink my priorities. Meanwhile, however, I shall practise my wonderful open-sesame without delay at Monet in the 20th Century.

"How dare you block the path of a match ball sponsor? is clearly always worth a go. And let's be honest, it's a lot less drastic than opening a vein.

Sports letters may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5211 They should include a daytime telephone number

SPORTS LETTERS

Percentage golfers make the game boring

for Johnson From Mr S Kyle

Sir.'I disagree with Alasdair Reid (report, February 22)." It is not a matter of changing the rules to allow punishment of Martin Johnson for stamping. It is time for the England selectors to stand up and be

No excuses

Martin Johnston cynically and cold-bloodedly stamped on John Leslie, while he lay unable to defend himself in the bottom of a ruck at Twickenham.

There was no element of mitigation, no heat of the moment, not even a suspicion of Leslie bending the rules a bit and purting himself at risk.

I looked back over a record-ing of the incident several times. Johnson approached the ruck from a distance, with everything in clear view, with plenty of time to assess the

His body angle is clearly shown by the photograph reproduced in the paper. His feet are in front of his body. He is not driving into the ruck. His feet are in front of his body weight for one purpose, to stamp on his opponent's face

What message does it send to the players at every level if the England selectors continue to condone and reward such behaviour, by selecting this

Alasdair Reid states the law is an ass as far as violent conduct is concerned. The selectors are not obliged to

Sir. John Hopkins (Strokeplay no match for head-to-head. February 22) highlighted much of what I believe is causing so-called "big" golf to lose its attraction. To many of us ardent golfers and watchers of the game, whether live or on television, the "percentage" approach of the

From Mr H.E. Paice

As stated by Hopkins, a mistake or two may be costly, in every serise of the word, under strokeplay conditions, so we are then lumbered with the unending misery of putt-stalking, grass-throwing etc ad nauseum - far less important in matchplay - as is the weather. Television commentators take great pride in "calling the shot". Why? Because they know the percentage play and are rarely surprised. don't want to hear their smugness; I'd much rather they speculated - or, shall we say, gam-bled on getting it right!

Surely a format can be devised to satisfy all Yours faithfully, H.E. PAICE. 19 Ravenswood Avenue, West-Wickham,

prove themselves of similar pedigree. S KYLE,

majority of players is boring.

11 Beaconsfield Place. Aberdeen.

From Mr Aadel Kardooni Sir. as a friend and former colleague of Martin Johnson's at Leicester, I found Simon Barnes Midweek View (February 24) offensive. Simon Barnes builds a picture of LBS mortgages Limited Martin being a prehistoric man, aggressive and lacking in intelligence. At the same time, he points out that he has never met Martin. I am sure that if he had researched his

> an engaging disposition. Although I am not condoning Martin's stamping on John Leslie, he is a haid and

subject he would have found

that Martin is intelligent with

physical man who plays his rugby in the same way. At the same time Martin is not a socalled "dirty player" who looks to prowl rugby games to hand out his form of retribution. Yours sincerely. AADEL KARDOONI.

From Mr Rob Edgerton Sir, In his Calcutta Cup preview (February 20), Michael Lynagh said England needed someone with "the build of Dallaglio, the pace of Guscott and excellent ball-handling skills". There is such a man playing rugby in England unfortunately, its the wrong

100 Piccadilly.

Andrew Farrell fits this description to a tee, as well as only he, along with players such as Connolly, Radlinski. Robinson and Newlove, were available in the back line for Clive Woodward. Yours sincerely. ROB EDGERTON, Cathedral Court, University of Surrey, Guildford, Surrey.

Lordly confusion

From Mr Denys Franzini Sir, I have made an application to MCC for tickets for a Test match to be played at Lord's in July. I have noted that the Regulations of MCC include "No ... confusion of any kind is permitted in any part of the ground". MCC further reserves the right to From Mr Ivor Hall

Blair's turn

Sir. Is there not a similarity between the match recently played between Arsenal and Sheffield United and the recent election of the leader of the Welsh assembly? Arsenal. whose actions in the first match were considered to be not in the interest of sportsmanship, offered a rematch that was applauded by all.

In Wales, Tony Blair changed the electoral system that voted for Welsh leader of the Labour Party to suit his own ends, and his "pupper" duly won a hollow victory. Would it not be in the interest of fair play, and the credibility of the Prime Minister, to return this election on a level playing field by giving every

international in Australia on

January 23 (the "calling" of

Muralitharan for "throwing")

does the definition of "any per-

son" extend to the umpires?

Yours faithfully.

DENYS FRANZINI,

10 Courtfield Mews.

person who refuses to comply with the Regulations. In view of the confusion caused at the England v Sri Lanka one-day

being a very accurate kicker. If remove from the ground any

Yours faithfully, to play fair 29 Erskine Hill, Hampstead Garden Suburb, London NW11. From Mr Brian Kain

Sir. Now that justice has been seen to be done with Arsenal's FA Cup victory over Sheffield United, should we now not re-consider the fair play "rule"? The incident in the first

member of the trade unions an

match resulted from a United player putting the ball into touch because a team-mate was hurt. Surely it should be the prerogative of the opposing team to make the gesture, ensuring that no time is wasted when players feign injury? Yours faithfully, BRIAN B. KAIN,

Stumbledon, The Ford, Little Hadham. Herts SGII 2AY

London SW6.

From Mr Giles Lyon Sir, In light of Arsene Wenger's refusal to accept Marc Overmars's "winning" goal in the FA Cup tie with Sheffield United, does this mean that players would be able to retract "goals" if they thought they were unfair, undeserved or just felt bad about scoring? Yours faithfully, GILES LYON, 150a Harbord Street,

This week in THE TIMES

Oxford aim to stem the flood of Cambridge victories in the Boat Race next month. Mike Rosewell sizes up the crews who will battle it out on the Thames.

Colin Jackson assesses his chances of striking gold in the world indoor athletics championships in Japan.

Thursday Is the European Cup still in Manchester United's sights after their quarter-final tie with Internazionale?

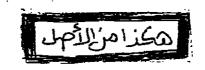
The Formula One wheels are turning in Australia for the opening grand prix of the season. Kevin Eason reports from Melbourne.

Saturday Football Saturday: the FA Cup quarter-finals in prospect plus top columnists Gary Neville and Robert

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The rate of interest on existing variable rate mortgages will be reduced by 0.50% from 1st March 1999 or such later date as provided by the Mortgage Deed.



BY DAVID HANDS

EVERY new administration needs a smile from Dame Fortune and Gloucester's arrived in the sixth minute of injury time at Kings-holm on Saturday. Graham Hughes, the Manchester referee, decided that Chris Sheasby had not released the ball in a tackle and Mark Mapletoft kicked his fifth penalty goal to take the home side into the semi-finals of the Tetley's

Bitter Cup. Richard Hill, Gloucester's deposed director of rugby, who sent a message of encouragement to his former charges, might have reflec-ted that this will be Gloucester's third appearance in the semi-finals in the past four years.

Philippe Saint-Andre, appointed after Hill's dismissal a fortnight ago. knows victory is only a temporary balm. "I have never won easily with Gloucester." the French wing said. "We played with a big heart but we are too traditional here. New rugby is not just kick Hill knew that and tried to change Saint-Andre's ambition is to build a squad that will play European rugby in season 2000-2001.

Gloucester deserved their luck. They lost Scott Benton, their scrum half, to a groin strain acquired in the pre-match warm-up and Richard Tombs, their influential centre. after eight minutes with a knee injury. Terry Fanolua, their other centre, was attending a family funeral in Western Samoa. so their attacking resources were thin in the extreme against a side that has not lost at Kingsholm since 1993.

Harlequins made poor use of the strong wind blowing downfield in the first half, which they lost 6-3, and could not score the points their imaginative play deserved in the second. John Gallagher, their director of rugby, was inclined to pass some of the blame to Hughes, though his refereeing of the ball on the floor was consistent with that of many of his peers this season.

We spent a whole day at a seminar for coaches and referees discussing the tackle law," Gallagher said. "I find it incredible that you can do that, think you know what the game is and then find a performance like that in the middle."

Harlequins' hope now is that they can qualify for Europe next season — if Europe proves to be back on the agenda for English clubs. They had the most dangerous runners in John Schuster and the abrasive Keith Wood, but they could take little advantage of Dan

Luger's confident display.

Gallagher could reflect that his team's try came from a pass by tion but limited technical expertise. The Gloucester hooker spun the ball 30 metres into midfield, missed his colleagues and allowed Harlequins to drive deep into the home 22 from a penalty: from the lineout. Rory Jenkins ran powerfully and Huw Harries, with the hint of a dummy, opened the defence under the posts.

Gloucester's sole attacking ploy seemed the introduction of Saint-Andre from the blind-side wing. but it was Rory Greenslade-Jones who finally unpicked the lock. His run into the Harlequins 22 appeared to have been for nothing when he knocked on but, into the wind, Harlequins could not kick clear, so Sheasby picked up and drove. Alas for the former England No 8, he was judged to have retained the ball on the ground and the accurate Mapletoft did the rest. SCORERS: Gloucester: Penalty goals: Maple-toff 5(26mm, 38, 61, 73, 95) Harlequire: Try: Har-nes (51) Conversion: Schuster Penalty goals: Schuster 2 (29, 68)

SCORING SEQUENCE (Gloucester first) 3-0 3-3 6-3 (half-time), 6-10, 9-10, 9-13, 12-13, 15-13 GLOUCESTER: C Cating; B Johnson, S Manne, R Tombs (rep. B Greerstade-Jones, 10mn), P Sant-Andre M Mappieroni, I Sanders, T Woodman (rep. 4 Windo, 75), N McCarthy (rep: C Fortey, 51), A Deacon, R Edier (rep. D Smis, 54), M Comwell, E Pearce, N Carter, S Opmoh

Pearls, N. Carles, S. Ojdrind, J. Keyter, P. Mensatt frep, W. Carling, 73), J. Schuster, D. Luger, R. Laby, H. Harnes, D. Barnes, Y. Wood, G. Halpin, G. Lewellyn, Y. Darvson, rep. G. Morgan, 61), R. Jerikins, A. Leach trep. T. Murphy. 83), C. Sheasby.

Tetley's Bitter Cup: Holders eliminated by resilient Newcastle



Tuigamala, right, of Newcastle, who scored two tries, powers through the Saracens defence during his side's Tetley's Bitter Cup victory at Kingston Park yesterday

By Dayid Hands RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

NEWCASTLE'S future may yet be uncertain in the long term but if any potential business consortium seeks a going concern, they will find one at kingston Park. With a display of magnificently controlled rugby in foul conditions, and two deftly taken tries from Va'aiga Tuigamala, the Premiership champions of last season removed Saracens, the holders, from the

Tetley's Bitter Cup.

The North East threw in everything it had to offer yesterday driving wind, a numbing rain and. at one stage, sleet across the pitch that put a high premium on basic skills. The response of both teams was better than an enthusiastic crowd had the right to expect, but where Saracens could make nothing of their territorial advantage in the first half, Newcastle had the ideal game-breaker after the interval, in Tuigamala. Nor was the Samoan wing merely in battering-ram mode.

His first try could hardly have been bettered, his second, three minutes from time, embellishing

Saracens tumble to guile of Tuigamala

the advantage as Saracens tried desperately to break the stranglehold by running from their own 22. Victory leaves Newcastle looking at the possibility of a second trophy in successive seasons and Rob Andrew, their director of rugby, casting sideways glances at those running the game.

If Newcastle are drawn at home in the semi-finals today, Andrew will fight tooth and nail to play at Kingston Park — where the capacity is 6,600 — despite the suggestion from English First-Division Rugby that the penultimate round must be played at a ground capable of holding 8,000. He is already opposed to the decision to play Premiership rugby through the World Cup next season, when at least five countries are likely to raid his resources. "I would like to know who makes these rules, why is 8,000 sud-

But Andrew could not have been happier with the form of his players. A fortnight before, just three days after the announcement that Cameron Hall Developments were to withdraw their funding, a distracted Newcastle were surprisingly beaten by London Scottish in the Premiership. This game made a huge statement about the players and the club," Andrew said. "If we can get the business side resolved quickly, we can move forward. The players will sit tight, no-one wants

Developments are expected within the next ten days, hastened perhaps by the possibility of more silverware on the back of a forward display that was as good as anything Newcastle have shown this season. Garath Archer enjoyed himself at the lineout, when throwing was often a lottery, and the Feidlim McLoughlin paid divi-dends against Saraceus in the second half with George Graham holding so redoubtable a prop as Paul Wallace. Security in that area allowed the immensely promising Ross Beattle to roam at large from No 8, helping to police a midfield that, in the first half, Saracens threatened to pierce. Twice Penaud was through, Bracken and Ravenscroft were hauled down just short and Constable kicked when he, perhaps, should have given Thirlby the chance to stretch his legs on the right wing.

The game turned either side of half-time. Newcastle worked Legg clear and though the full back was stopped by Daniel five metres short of the line, the supporting wave poured in and Saracers fell offside under their own posts. Even in such a wind, Wilkinson was able to kick the penalty before placing a

probing grub-kick towards Under-wood's wing that Thirlby did well to clear. The second score, eight minutes after the interval, was decisive: Legg made the extra man on the blindside of a scrum on Newcas-tle's ten-metre line, Tuigamala was into his stride and kicked ahead. He pursued the ball so well that he claimed it ahead of Johnson and though the Saracens full back made the tackle, Tuigamala's momentum carried him to the line.

Newcastle's defence became even more grudging after that, even when Penaud nipped through a gap and kicked for his wing. The final nail was driven home near the finish. Saracens's passing broke down. Beattie drove forward and Tuigamala arrived from deep to take Armstrong's pass and sprint 20 metres to the line.

Whatever the future of first-class rugby in the North East. Newcastle seem likely to be part of it.

goel Wikinson (36) SCORING SEQUENCE (Newcaste first): 3-0 NEWCASTLE: S Legg: T Underwood, M Snew, Wildnson, V Tulgamala: R Andrew, G Armstrong. NEWCASTLE: S Legy, 1 Andrew, G Armstrong: Wildmann, V Tutgarmalic R Andrew, G Archer, H Vywyen, P Wellon (rep: S O'Nell, 80), R Amold, R Beetlie. SARACENS: G Johnson (rep: B Lee, 74); R Tinfah, R Constable (rep: K Sonel, 40), S Revensoroft. B Densel, A Panaud, K Bracken, D Flatman (rep: F 20), G Chuter, P Wellson, P Johns, I and R Dennel.

Indiscipline of Johnson turns tie on its head

Richmond...

By MARK SOUSTER

THESE are difficult times for Martin Johnson. However much he protests his innocence over the John Leslie stamping incident, the impact will undoubtedly leave as deep an impression on the England lock as it did, temporarily, on the Scottish centre's neck at Twickenham nine days ago.

As never before he is a marked man. On Saturday, Johnson was shown a white card for what John Kingston, the Richmond director of rugby, described as a "cynical" professional foul The decision by Steve Lander, the referee, effectively cost Leicester their chance of a league and cup double this season and subconsciously or not, referees are now on Johnson's case, however much others, among them Dean Richards, defend his reputation and deny that he is a replianoff and the trying to clear up the game, pick on somebody who is dirty." Richards said.

The ten-minute spell from the

27th minute turned a magnificent, full-throttle cup-tie on its head. In Johnson's absence. Richmond sorred two tries in four minutes, by Clarke and Williams, respectively from scrum and lineout, that won the game and secured their place in a cup semi-final for the first time in their 138-year history.

Certainly Richmond looked to play on Johnson's perceived fragile

temperament, as well as that of others. The tactic, cynical in itself, worked. As he was against Ireland at Wembley. Craig Quinnell was in turn abrasive and provocative and punched Johnson as the half-time vhistle blew.

To his credit Johnson kept caim. Quinnell was sin-binned for punching Pat Howard in the second half although, crucially, Leicester managed only one score during his sideline sojourn, when Neil Back drove over from a lineour.

Kingston praised Lander's "cour-age" in taking action against the Leicester captain, who was penalised for stepping over a ruck and toe-poking the ball out of Agustin Pichot's hands ten metres from the Leicester line. "If we are going to find space on a rugby field it is so important you are hard on this type of infringement," he said. Lander is to be applauded because it was a cynical offence."

cynical offence."

This was not a dirty game however, more rugby in the raw; a fiercely contested Tetley's Bitter Cup quarter-final, in which both sides spurned opportunities wide out. Leicester were always on the back foot after losing Joei Stransky on Friday with a knee injury. Without his control and without Without his control, and without anyone capable of straightening the line, they could make little headway against a committed Richmond cover defence.

With seven minutes to go, Corry had pounced on a loose ball after Clarke and then Hutton tried to run out of defence, and the feeling remained that Leicester might still have enough character and resolve to win, despite Stimpson's conversion rebounding off the upright. For all their dominance, they were restricted to a dropped-goal attempt by Stimpson that barely

After three days away at Windsor, Richmond had decided to adopt a more direct approach. In short they decided to take Leicester on at their own game — kicking for position, and turning their opponents. In the end, despite a few palpitations, it worked. "Fantastic feeling." Clarke said. "A great day

for the club."

SCORERS: Richmond: Tries: Clarke (34mm), Williams (39) Conversion: Va'a. Penalty goal: Va'a (56), Letcester: Tries: Back (46), Cony (73) Penalty goal: Scimpson (2)

SCORING SECULENCE (Richmond first) D-3, 7-3, 12-3 (talf-time), 12-8, 15-8, 15-13

RICHMOND: M Pini, N Waine, J Winght, M Dixon, S Brown: E Va'a, A Pichot; D McFarlend, B Walsens, D Cumpton, C Cultinal (sin-bin, 46-56mm), C Galles, R Hutton, A Vander, B Clarke
LEICESTER: T Stimpson, L Lloyd (rep: N Exulise, 10), C Joiner, J Stuart, D Loughed; P Howard, J Hamilton, G Rownbrea (rep. D Jelley, 60), R Cockeril (rep. D West, 67), D Garforth, M Johnson (sin-bin, 27-37), F van Hearden, L Moody (rep. P Gustard, 57), N Back, M Cony.

Restereet: S Lander (Liverpool)

Aggressive defence gives Wasps their sting

London Irish... By Mark Souster

ONCE again. Wasps can sense that

Twickenham feeling. A year ago they put London Irish out of the Tetley's Bitter Cup at Sunbury at the quarter-final stage with a resounding victory on their way to the final. Yesterday, at Loftus Road, they repeated the feat with a victory that, if not as emphatic in terms of scoreline, was its equal in terms of superiority. It completed a clean sweep of wins for home sides in the last eight. Given that results have gone with the territory, they will have fingers crossed for another home tie in the draw today.

This victory may not have been achieved in the grand flowing manner of 12 months ago, but this was every bit as satisfying against opponents who have been transformed in the interim. In front of a record crowd of 11,417, it was hard, it was ferocious, and the tackle count 115-94 in favour of Wasps tells its own story.

This was the other side of an inconsistent team that succumbed larnely at Bedford in the Allied Dunbar Premiership recently. In a game that was dominated by defence, it was Wasps who denied

opportunity, and offered them only two penalties within kicking range. Woods was able to convert the first. but missed the second. Their discipline was exemplary, but London Irish contrived to make life difficult for themselves.

Kirke struggled to find his jumpers and, as a consequence, their lineout was disjointed - how they miss Malcolm O'Kelly. The exiles were also undone by their spirit of adventure, running penalties with

Stransky: ineligible

want to play a fast game, keeping the ball in hand, but with a deceptive wind, it cried out for a calmer head to kick for position. That would have at least relieved the almost relentless pressure they found themselves under in the second half and which increasingly forced them into errors.

They ran just about everything and with a defence as resolute as that of Wasps, in which Joe Worsley was outstanding, was a fatal

JOEL STRANSKY, the Leices-

ter fly half, has ruled out playing

for England in the World Cup

later this year because of the

absence of due qualifications. Stransky believed that he had an

England-born grandfather.

which would have made him

But after full investigation,

Stransky, who kicked the

winning dropped goal for South

Africa against New Zealand in

the 1995 World Cup final, discov-

ered that it was his great-grand-

parents who moved to South Africa early this century. This

eligible.

prompting maintained Wasps's momentum and territorial advantage. Dick Best, the London Irish direc-

tor of rugby, was philosophical. We never played anywhere near our potential. We made too many errors," he said. Nigel Melville, his counterpart, was giad that his side regained some consistency. "The motivation is to go back to Twickenham, where we lost heavily last year, to put things right. But we are

not taking anything for granted. If Stransky fails his England test

> his intention to remain resident in this country.
> "It's disappointing news but it takes a load off my shoulders." he said. "My England career is not an issue now." Stransky would have become eligible to play for England a month before the World Cug began this

bars him from representing Eng-

land, even though he has stated

☐ Montferrand booked their place in the European Cup next season by beating Bourgoin: 35-16 in the final of the European Shield in Lyons on Saturday.

the tryscoring almost reckless abandon. They mistake In contrast Alex King's we play like that a to the final."

Take nothing away from Wasps, though. Their back row was dominant and laid the foundations for success. Worsley was hugely influential in an aggressive defence; Lawrence Dallaglio was also prominent, while Scrivener ran at the midfield relentlessly. Trevor Leota added an extra dimension in the loose, as well as being a dynamic force around the fringes, he is quick and has good hands. His involvement almost created a try for Dallaglio, who crossed in the second half but was penalised for a double movement. The England captain, however, was not to be denied. After 73 minutes Simon Shaw, a

replacement for Reed, drove down the short side and Rollitt provided the scoring pass that Dallaglio gleefully accepted. The additional penalty goal by Logan three minutes later was the final nail.

SCORERS: Wasps: Try: Dalagio (73min). Conversion: Logan Penalty goals: Logan 3 (1, 73, 76). Dropped goal: Ress (43). London Irist: Penelty goal: Woods (32).
SCORING SEQUENCE (Wasps Irist: 3-0, 3-3 (hall-irist). 8-3, 9-3, 16-3, 19-3. had-timel, 8-3, 9-3, 16-3, 19-3, 20
WASPS: J Lewsey. P Sempson, F Waters, R Henderson, K Logan, A King (repr M Denney, 75mm), M Wood; A Black, T Leota, W Green, M Weedon, A Read (rep. S Shaw, 85), L Dalaglio, J Wonsley, P Sortwener (rep: E Roller, 89).
LONDON 8HSH: C O'Shee, J Bishop (repr. J Cunningham, 40), N Burrows, B Venter, N Woods, S Bachtop, K Puti; N Halley, R Krhe, R Hardwick (rep. K Fullman, 70), R Structwick, N Harvey, J Boer, R Gallacher, I Feaunatt.

Salford

got off the ground.

for the club."

Hanley offers hope to Sale

Bedford Manchester Sale....

By Mark Baldwin

ETERNAL optimists maintain that there are no endings, only new beginnings; and optimism, often spilling over into blind faith, is the very lifeblood of sport. Take the events at Goldington Road on Satur-

Bedford, who simply had to win to maintain realistic hopes of clawing themselves out of the Allied Dunbar Premiership's bottom two, produced instead one of their most disappointing displays of the season to allow Sale, their fellow strugglers, to pull six points ahead of them.

But were Bedford in utter despair afterwards? On the contrary, according to Rudi Straeuli, their director of rugby, whose seemingly unquenchable spirit continues to

provide hard-up Bedford with perhaps their most prized asset. "Our aim is to stay above West Hartlepool and I believe we can do that," Straet-li said. "And, then, I think we can win the play-off against the second division's second-

placed team." For a club that have endured a wretched season of under-achievement, including eight successive defeats before this win. Sale were also surprisingly upbeat as their fears of relegation eased.

Well-organised in defence and slowing the game down whenever possible to take the steam from Bedford's occasional raids. Sale won the day be-cause they have, in Steve Hanley, the most exciting attacking discovery of the sea-

Hanley, 19, may yet force his way into the Five Nations Championship and illustrated with his second try, an instinctive eye for a gap, his perfectlytimed diagonal run inside Chris Yates injecting pace into a static move.

But the real demonstration of the power of Hanley's 6ft 3in, lost frame, had come 13 minutes earlier. Rory Underwood, who might be 36 in June but did, after all, win 85 England caps, was tight up on Hanley when he received the ball. Underwood was brushed off like an irritant fly as Hanley thundered away. A case, perhaps, of a new begin-ning and a sad ending?

SCORERS: Bedfort: Try: Paramore (Schmi) Conversion: Howard Sale: Tries: Harriey 2 (24, 37) Conversion: Howarth 2 (27, 88) 68)
SCORING SEQUENCE (Bediord first)
0-5 0-8, 0-15 (hall-time) 7-15, 7-18
BEDFORD: S Stewart R Underwood. A Mundoch, D Harris (rep J Ewens, 80mm), 0 O'Methory: S Howard, R Ellioti, A Ozdentir (rep A Oliver, 53), J Richards, C Boyd, A Coding (rep J Cookle, 49), S Murray, R Winters (rep Cockle, 14-18), J Forster, J Paramore.

more
SALE: J. Martinder: D. Rees, J. Basendel, C. Yates, S. Hanley, S. Howarth, K. Etis, D. Beil, P. Greening, D. Theron, S. Rawalus, C. Murphy (rep. D. Bekown, 51), P. Anglessa, A. Sanderson, D. O'Cunnangan

Determined Diver has Scotland all at sea

England Scotland.

By Alan Pearey

IF ENGLAND'S women are to close the gap on New Zea-land, the world champions, they could do with a few more like Chris Diver. Yesterday the full back, absent from England's last outing in the World Cup third place play-off last May, provided the highlight of a scrappy victory over Scotland when she caught a high ball in her own 22 and with explosive pace raced the length of the field to score.

The Sussex firefighter's solo effort was the fifth of six Eng-land tries that launched Gill Burns's side into the first official Five Nations Championship in emphatic fashion at Richmond Ground.

Athletic Scotland, who had won the title last year after beating England 8-5, offered stern resistance but never remotely threatened to repeat that upset once Burns, the No 8, had cancelled out Rimma

Lewis's third-minute try for the away side. With the industrious Helen Clayton complementing Burns's power in the back row, and Emma Mitchell, the scrum half, looking as perky as anyone on the field, England won at a canter.

Mitchell and Burns, again. crossed before the break before Diver glided through within 40 seconds of the restart and, at 22-7, England with seven Saracens players in their ranks — were home and dry, with the second half something of an error-strewn anticlimax.

SCORERS: England: Tries: Burns 2 (8, 28min), Over 2 (41, 72), Mitchell (23), Crawford (80) Conversions: Collins, Burns.

Swansea prolong defiance

Bridgend

BY GERALD DAVIES

THE battle of words between the Weish Rugby Union on the one hand and Cardiff and Swansea on the other is set to continue. Yesterday was the deadline when both clubs were meant to have paid the £150,000 fine imposed for playing unsanctioned fixtures against teams from the Allied Dunbar Premiership. Both clubs have declined to pay and do not intend to do so. What

the penalty is for failing to comply remains unclear. On Saturday, Cardiff and Swansia qualified for the quarter-final of the union's cup compelition sponsored by SWALEC. Thus their presence is secure for the moment since the union cannot contemplate alienaling SWALEC, who would insist that both Cardiff

and Swansea remain in the tournament Bridgend, second from bot-

tom of the premier division, gave a good account of them-selves in the first half. With all the enthusiasm that a one-off cup game can motivate and the position of underdog can enhance, the home team forced the game their way. Swansea could hardly settle, committing all sorts of errors so as to allow Cull to kick a couple of penalty goals.

When Durston, who had a fine match, kicked into the

open, Swansea were so spreadeagled that three Bridgend players were given the choice to pick up the ball. It was Andrew Williams who did so and scored the try.
They might have extended

this advantage had Cull been more accurate with three other penalty chances, but a 13-3 lead was never going to be enough. Swansea forced three scrummages on their oppo-

nents' line in the fourth minute of first-half extra time and eventually Rhodri Jones scrambled into the scrum to claim a score. In the second half, Swansea raised the pace arid looked to the scrum to destroy what was left of Bridgend's efforts. Immediately after the restart Arwel Thomas scored a try and thereafter it all became predictable. after it all became predictable.

SCORERS Bridgend: Try: A Wilsams (15min) Conversion Call Pensity goals: Cuil 3 (10, 38, 47). Susmesse: Tries: R Jones (40), Thomas (43), Morianty (51), pensity by (67), Arnold (77). Jentona (79) Conversions: Thomas 4, Davies: Pensity goal: Thomas 4, Davies: Pensity goal: Thomas (23)

SCORING SEQUENCE (Bridgent first; 30, 10-0, 10-3, 13-3, 13-10 (had-line), 13-17, 16-17, 16-22, 16-25, 16-35, 16-43. BRIDGEND: G Cuil, J Taylor (rep. S Greenaway, 40mml. S Wrn, L Thomas, O Thomas, A Durston, A Jendens, L Manning (rep. A Jones, 53); G Thomas (rep. A Joy, 25). White, S Ford, C Stephens, O Lloyd G Thomas and Conversion of the Conversion of the

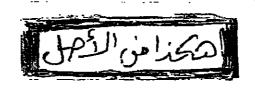
Peace, rs).

SWANSEA: D Weatherley, R Rees, M Taylor, S Globs, M Robunson; A Thomes (rep.).

Daves, 77). R Jones; D Morris, G Jerkins, I Antony (rep. B Evers, 50). P Amold, Morre, P Morrary, C Charves, L Jones.

Reference: C Thomas (Neath).

Cup draw, page 39



*Indiscipling of Johnson turns tie on its head

Silk Cut Challenge Cup: Veteran Great Britain stand-off orchestrates Leeds victory

St Helens trampled underfoot by Powell

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

IN 15 years of rugby league, Daryl Powell has only been to Wembley with Great Britain. Like everyone else associated with Leeds Rhinos, the veteran stand-off half, who again made a mockery of his troublesome feet as St Helens went the way of Wigan Warriors at Headingley on Saturday, is taking nothing for

The fact that he had not required a painkilling injec-tion, as Leeds maintained their nerve and discipline to reach the Silk Cut Challenge Cup quarter-finals, was a bonus. At 33, Leeds would be advised to wrap Powell in cotton wool. "There's a chip and a spur growing on a bone in my foot, so I ve a problem. I always thought once I was past 32. I'd just take it year by

year," he said. Now that Tony Kemp and Graham Holroyd have left. Leeds need Powell fit and in his present form. Karl Pratt. Powell's junior by 15 years,

ing stand-off prospect. In the meantime, the ploy of begin-ning there with Powell and pushing lestyn Harris up from full back later in games continues to work nicely.

Graham Murray, the Leeds coach, is an admirer. "You need your tough, experienced men to lead the way. Daryl was outstanding for the time he was on, both in attack and defence. Other guys feed off Powell, a confessed long

shot for the coaching position when Murray leaves for North Sydney in October, said: "The way Wigan got themselves as a dynasty in the game is what this club's aiming for." With only a Yorkshire Cup victory to speak of in the 21 years since they last lifted the Challenge Cup, Leeds have reckoned before that they have a winning blend and been disappointed. This time they may be

proved right, not simply because they have a pack that refuses to buckle, but because they can adapt their game. Whereas Wigan were run off their feet, St Helens invited an arm wrestle and flinched. Leeds were initially sucked in was bought from Feather- by niggly spoiling, but adjust-stone Rovers as an outstand- ed the way that they defend-

Blackmore brushes Martyn, of St Helens, aside during Leeds Rhinos' victory at Headingley on Saturday ed, cleaned up the nicks and, significantly, conceded only two penalties in the second Hanley's team was not so much in question as the flair, half, while St Helens failed to with which St Helens sides curb their ill-discipline, which are traditionally imbued yet Harris punished with six pensurfaced fleetingly. Hanley's alty goals.

The errant forward trio of decision to drop Anthony Sui-

uncompromising nature of Helens workrate, and the impetus of Jackson coming on at hooker for Leeds set in motion their opening try by Ryan Sheridan. The darting Sheridan was at the heart of their other try by Newton after Harris had kicked St livan looked justified, as the wings were spare parts. One Helens into submission. of the few times that Paul Atcheson pocketed a late Newlove got the ball, he finconsolation, but on the eve of ished a superb move. Verve rarely matched the St

his former club. a long JJB Super League cam-paign, the road ahead looks

rockier for Hanley than for HIS fOTTHET CHID.

SCORERS: Leeds Rhimos: Tries: Shoridon, Newton Goals: Harris (3). St Helans: Tries: Newtone, Atcheson, Goals: Long (4)
LEEDS RHIMOS: I Harris; L Rwest, R Biackmore, B Godden, F Curminis; D Powell, R Shondan; M Maselia, T Newton, D Flosy, A Morley, A Famel, M Glanville. Substitution: M St Hillars, L Jackson, A Hay, J Mathiou. ST HELENS: P Atcheson, C Smith, T Stewart, P Newtone, F Tullag; T Martyn, S Long; J O'Nell, K Curmingham, P Davidson, A Persolini, S Nickle, P Sculiflorpe Substitutions: K Iro, P Adamson, V Matauta, P Wellers.

Referee: S Currenings (Widnes)

Wolves begin to justify bold optimism

Warrington Wolves.. Halitax Blue Sox...

By Christopher Irvine

THERE is nothing like a cup run to inspire confidence, and with new backers and Peter Deakin, from Saracens, newly installed in the chief executive's seat, Wilderspool is a hotbed of optimism. And with justification after Warrington Wolves' victory yester-

The feel-good factor was confirmed by an impressive defeat of Halifax Blue Sox. for whom the first round of JJB Super League matches next weekend presents an early chance for revenge. Halifax were eliminated early from the Silk Cut Challenge Cup last year and reached the play-offs by finishing third in the league, but Warrington gave a clear indication of the stiffer competition this season.

More satisfying than tries by four of their back line and another by Roper, a centre converted to loose forward, was restricting Halifax to just two penalty goals by Hol-royd. That's the best defence since I've been here." Darryl van de Velde, the Warrington coach, said.

Halifax were only 10-4 behind and had been restored to their full complement, with Mercer's re-emergence from the sin-bin, when they were caught offside in the 54th minute. Roper tapped to

himself on the Warrington 20-metre line and was out of sight by the time that the Blue Sox players realised what was happening. Warrington were inspired by the livewire Briers at scrum half, while Nutley, the prop. was everwhere. With Farrar buge-ly influential in the rearguard effort, Halifax never ooked like adding to their points in the second half.

Three of Warrington's tries got the green light by the video referee, the first after five minutes when a charge down by McCurrie came under scrutiny in the build-up to a score by the 34-year-old Forster, the only survivor of War-agton's last Wembley final appearance, in 1990. War-rington could have paid for a clutch of missed chances in the first half, but with a

the second, they blew away a disjointed Halifax. Hunte's clever footwork enabled him to profit from spillages by Bloem and Gibson. Kohe-Love eased past Cardiss to score beneath the posts, before Penny's late try

strong wind at their backs in

was converted by Briers. SCORERS: Warrington Wolves: Tries:
FOSSE, Roper, Hurte, Kohe-Love, Penny
Gonds: Briers (7). Halflax Blue Sox:
Gonds: Holoryd (2).
WARRINGTON WOLVES: I. Penny.
WARRINGTON WOLVES: I. Penny.
Hoach, T. Kohe-Love, A Hurse, M. Forster, S.
Wilson, I. Bners; M. Hilton, D. Farrar, D. Nusley, S. Galbes, S. McCurre, J. Roper, Substitutes: D. Hanger, M. Warnwngfr, G. Chembers, I. Knott.
MALIFAX PRI US SCIX: G. Holmed, J. RicMALIFAX PRI US SCIX: G. Holmed, J. Ricbers, I Knott.

HALIFAX BLUE SOX: G Hotroyd, J Bloern, D Gabson, A Craig, D Bouverg, C
Chester, G Clinch, P Broadbent, P Rowley,
K Sterrett, R Mershal, C Gillespue, G Mercer, Subalfibuties: N Priviney, M Moana, D
Cardiss, D Clark,
Referee; R Smath (Castlelord)

Salford storm through

Huddersfield Giants 14 Saiford Reds...

By PETER WILSON

SALFORD Red's muchchanged team still have their sights set on going one step farther than a year ago when they reached the Silk Cut Challenge Cup semi-final.
They booked their quarter-

final place against Castleford Tigres by holding off the spirited challenge of Huddersit to both sides that they were able to beat the elements driving rain and a strong - to provide such an entertaining contest.

The long-anticipated battle of the scrum halves wasedged by Martin Crompton, who scored one try and was behind much of the damage to the Huddersfield cause.

Not that blame for the Giants' defeat could be heaped on the shoulders of Bobby Goulding, his threequarter rival, who never gave an inch

A penalty by Goulding put Huddersfield in front but Salford were the first to exploit the conditions when Steve Blakeley hoisted a high kick that Paul Cook failed to gather and Crompton was able to pounce for the opening

most identical circumstar This time it was Goulding who launched a high kick. Bobby Thompson who failed to gather and Danny Arnold who went over for the try. Goulding's conversion into the wind put the Giants in front, but their lead only lasted a couple of minutes before Garen Casey crossed for the first of his two tries.

Facing a two-point deficit at the break, any optimism Hud-dersfield harboured was shattered five minutes into the second half, when a short in a gruelling struggle. kick from Crompton skidded across the wet surface and Casey timed his dive to

perfection and touched down... Jim Lenihan sched to keep the Giants in the hunt, but their chances disappeared three minutes before the end when Scott Martin, possed unchallenged for the score that Huddersfield hit back in altook the Reds out of reach.

> Saliforni: Goela: Biakel (21. Marin, Crompton 21. Marin, Crompton.
>
> HLIDDERSFIELD GIANTS: If Arnold, P. Cook, J. Lenhan, P. Loughis, A.Cheetnam. C. Weston, B. Goudding, N. Rezzind, D. Russett, B. Richards, D. Bougstain, U. Berny, M. Salm Substituteurs: N. Wintt, P. Reiby, B. Hudson, I. Pickayance.
>
> SALFORD REDS: G. Broachert, J. Hayes, B. Thompson, G. Cassey, P. Cange, S. Elakeley, M. Compton, N. Baynis, T. Aster, P. Southem, H. Smith, D. Brüsen, O. Hame, Substituteurs: S. Martin, J. Highton, G. Bruggs, J. Farmalo.
>
> Reference: S. Pressley (Castileton) J Famalo L: S Prestey (Castleford)

Davidson, Nickle and Matautia would be advised to learn

controlled aggression, which Ellery Hanley, the S Helens

coach, once showed. The

in draw for last eight RHINOS and

Bulls avoid Rhinos

Bradford Bulls, the two favourites, were kept apart in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup quarter-final draw last night (Christopher Irvine writes). The revitalised Warrington Wolves were presented with a difficult tie away to Bradford on Sunday week and an early return to his former club for Peter Deakin, their

new chief executive. The other televised match, likely to be the other all-JJB Super League tie between Castleford Tigers, who eliminated York last Friday, and Saliord Reds. Widnes hung on against Leigh yesterday to win 20-17 and earned home advantage once more against

By John Goodbody

third successive year with a performance of consummate

Last year they beat the other

four regional winners in the

German age-group internationals who are studying at the

Worcestershire school for a

The cumulative effect has

been impressive. Last Wednes-

day they warmed up for this tournament by drawing 0-0 with Cambridge University, who were virtually at full

strength. Already winners of the national under-18 indoor

title this season, Bromsgrove

had few evident weaknesses

yesterday as they completed a unique double of national

They successively beat Arnold School, Blackpool,

Wycombe High School, and

King's Canterbury, all by 3-0.

In the last game of the round

they won 40 against Millfield.

who earlier had been beaten

3-0 by Wycombe but had

looked the most likely challeng-

championships.

maturity.

Whitehaven are the only other Northern Ford Premier-

QUARTER-FINALS

London v Whitehaven Castleford v Salford Widnes v Leeds Bradford v Warrington

I Ties to be played week-end of March 13-14

ship side left in the competition after they beat Oldham trip in rugby league, from Cumbria, to face London Broncos at the Stoop Memorial Ground. Martin Offiah, who missed most of last season, scored London's only try as they survived a scare away at Hull Kingston Rovers in a grim 6-0 victory, which put them into the last eight for only the second time.

Wakefield Trinity Wildcats...8 Bradford Bulls....

By MARTIN RICHARDS

STEVE McNAMARA, the Bradford Bulls captain, whose place is by no means guaranteed in the strongest line-up, played a pivotal role as they gained a bruising passage into the quarter-finals of the Challenege Cup yesterday. Expectations of a runaway win for Bradford were

helped close the gap in class. Wakefield lived up to their new name. Wildcats, even after Bradford had opened up a 14-2 lead after 21 minutes. Henry Paul put Bradford ahead when he picked up a loose ball to score wide out before Stuart Fielden, an impressive young forward.

mud and a swirling wind

crossed unopposed after McNamara's sweetly-timed pass had sucked in the Wakefield cover. Wakefield, anxious to dis-

McNamara stands out

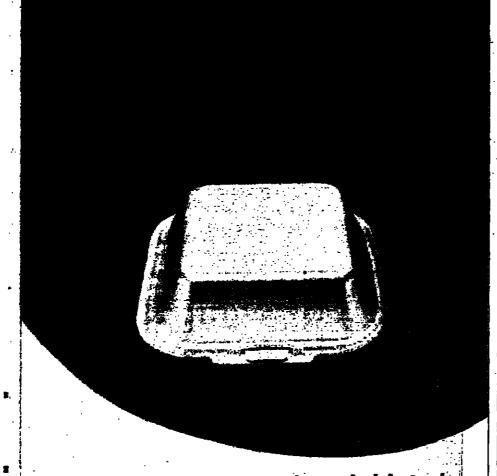
pel fears that they will be the whipping boys of Super League this season, dug deep and came up with a rousing try from their Australian stand-off. Shane Kenward, a minute into the second half after Michael Withers had knocked on straight from the Bradford were suddenly on

ther intervention by McNamara to settle matters. He threw only the faintest of dummies but the defence opened up invitingly and the loose forward charged through for a 58th-minute try which took all the sting out of Wakefield's revival. James Lowes, the hooker, added a fourth try with ten minutes remaining.

Matthew Elliott, the Bradford coach, said: "It was an ugly match in ugly conditions and we didn't adapt well enough to the wind and the wet. But all credit to Wakefield who showed great character. But we didn't do the smart things very well today."

Bradford's scrum half. Paul Deacon, retired at half-time with a leg injury after landing three kicks at goal and Paul also received an injury, which forced him to leave the field in the second half.

WAKEFELD TRINITY WILDCATS: A Hodgson; L Stot, A Brunker, K Crowther, N Lew: S Keaward, G Torninson; F Stephenson, R Southernwood, A Fisher, G missid, in Nacionalo, P. Waterie, G. Law.
BRADFORD BULLIS: M. Webers, T. VaJora, D. Peacock, S. Nayvor, N. McAvoy, H.
Paul, P. Deacoct, B. McDermott, J. Lowes, S.
Festien, B. Owyer, O. Boyle, S. McNamara.
Substatases N. Harmon, J. Donougher, M.
Forshaw, W. Jowitt.



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it's rivals for quality, it beats made possible by the unique 1440dpi EPSON Micro Piezo Crystal Printhead

> smallest dot, EPSON have just made it even smaller. Dur Ultra MicroDot is less than half the width of "

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Having created the world's

ers to Bromsgrove. Eight of the Bromsgrove goals were scored by the longstriding Walton, who plays as an advanced striker and who also had near misses with some deft reverse-stick shots.

in usual style THERE is little disputing the recent dominance of Broms-grove at under-18 girls' hockey. Yesterday, in the rain and gusts of Milton Keynes, they took the British Aerospace national title for the

in schools

finals by scoring 18 goals and conceding none with a team that included Lucilla Wright. gone in," she said afterwards. It was a real team performthe full England international. ance from us but having the This season, they have Sally three Germans made it all Walton and Jane Allen, who have both represented Eng-The trio of Ulrike Patschland schools, as well as three

kowski, Luisa Leisewitz and Laura Lembke gave an impetus to the team because of their physical presence and the difficulty opponents found in getting the ball away from them. They are part of a group of 28 Germans attending the independent school this year, although they do not receive

any sports bursaries.
Caroline Ralph, the
Bromsgrove team manager. said: "We got better and better as the day went on. The success of the under-l8s has been the result of the girls playing together in the younger age groups and the results coming to fruition at senior

level. "We are almost there with the under-los. "The programme is coming through so that we have a concrete package at all age levels. It is a long-term process."

RESULTS: Bramsgrove School, Worceste-shire 3 Arnold School, Blackpool 0, Mallield, Sansessi 2 Wycombe HS, Buckingham-shire 1: Arnold 0 King's Cartestury 1; Wycombe 0 Bromsgrove 3; King's 0 Mallield 1; Wycombe 0 Bromsgrove 3; King's 0 Mallield 3; Mycombe 1, Millield 0 Bromsgrove 4; Final Mycombe 1, Millield 0 Bromsgrove 4; Final Plansforme 1 Bromsgrove 4; Final Plansforme 1 Bromsgrove 4; Final "Another day they would have



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THE PRIZES

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06 Jacques Villeneuve



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qualifying for a race -10 points. Speeding in pit lane -5 points BONUS POINTS apply to six grands prix during the 1999 Formula One championship, the first of which is the Brazilian Grand Prix. Correctly predicting winning driver: 100 points; second place: 200 points; third place: 300 points

David Coulthard 07 Eddie Irvine 01 Mika Hakkonen 02 Michael Schumacher - 08 Olivier Panis 09 Giancatio Fisiche 03 Damon Hill 04 David Coulinard 11 Johnny Herbert 05 Alessandro Zanardi

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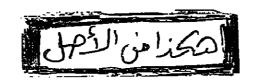
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Chris Metirath

Dunwoo

Chris McGrath on a former champion smoothing over rough patches

Dunwoody shows fighting spirit

FIVE years ago. Racing Post Chase day at Kempton produced no fewer than eight Cheltenham Festival winners. While there might well have been one or two trials on Saturday that signposted the way to profit in the Cotswolds where the delirium commences a formight tomorrow - perhaps the most significant test this year was passed on two legs rather than four.

Richard Dunwoody, who gave Dr Leunt an immaculate ride to win the Racing Post Chase, has rather given the im-

RICHARD EVANS

Nan: LAST OPTION (3.30 Newcastle) This progressive hunger

chaser heat Double. Thriller last season and looks well treated for his handicap debut.

NB: Chevalier Errant (200 Newcastle)-Thunderer found Go Infor-mal (14-1) for the Armshair Ist-vestor on Saturday and in-cluded Good Heart [12-1]. among five Haydock winners.

pression in recent weeks that he is prey to some inhibition of body or soul.

Much the ugliest symptom had emerged at Ascot the previous Saturday, when a weighing-room scuffle with Mick Fitzgerald tarnished the gracious reputation of both men, merited equally in and out of the saddle.

They have evidently put their spat behind them and the temptation to dramatise the episode has been sensibly resisted by others, too. The stewards, for instance, turned a discreetly blind eye.

Between two such senior jockeys, it was a telling meas-ure of the stresses of their peril-ever reason, however, he has

SATURDAY'S

RESULTS

Kempton Park

Going: set (good to set in places)

2.00 (2m ch) 1, Super Tacilics (A Thornton 2·1). 2. Kadastrol (7·2): 3. Aedean (66-1) Lake Kantha Evens lav 6 ran. Sh hd. dest. R Alnor Tote (2.90). £1 70, £1 60 DF £3 80 CSF £7 99

2.35 (2m hdis) 1, Premier Generation (M A Fitzgerald, 6-1), 2, Davoski (9-4); 3, Promi-nert Profile (11-8 lav) 8 ran NRT Alhossam 1, 2*4 N Henderson, Tote £5 40; £2.00, £1 70 DF £6 t0 CSF-£17 49

3.05 (2m 41 110yd chj 1. Maltoumi) (M A Pit zgerald. 4-11 fav), 2, No Retreat (9-2), 3 kmg Ol Sparta (8-1), 4 ron 271, 29l, N Hend-erson Tote £1 40 DF: £1 80 GSF £2 34

3.35 (2m hdle) 1, Katarino (M A Frizgerak), 4-7 lav), 2, Scarlet Pimpernet (15-8), 3, Tem-per Lad (10-1) 6 ran 8, 18 N N Henderson Tole, 21 60, 21 10, 21 60 DF \$1.50 CSF

4.10 (3m ch) 1, Dr Leunt (8 Dunwoody, 3-1 Lw), 2, The Land Agent (9-2), 3, Even Flow (5-1) 8 ran, MF Unguided Missile 3-4, 7, P Hobbs Tote 53-8, 5-40, 51 60, 52 10 DF 55.30 CSF 514 73 Tricast 554 72

4.40 (3m 110yd holle) 1. Pharaneer (R Thornton, 11-2), 2. An.um (8-1) 3, hors-Futtor (16-1) Occar Hawk (6th) Phythell 3-1 ji-laks 8 rdn 81, 11-1 D Notholson Tote-680 (150, 22-30, C2-80 DF 635-50 CSF 240 74 Thecar (573-68

Placepot: £51.00. Quadpot: £11.40.

1.15 1, Simply Gifted (5-4 fov, Thunder-er's rept), 2, Racio (16-1), 3, Navarre Sam-ton (11-1), 9 ran

: on (11-1) 9 ran 1,45 1, Mouse Bird (5-1), 2, Buo Charm (4-1) 3, Storm Damago (5-4) Fourth in Lino 6-4 km 8 ran 2,15 1, Go-Informal (14-1), 2, Blowing, World (5-4 (1-lav) 3, Master Beveled (5-4 p-

2.45 1 Young Kenny (9-1), 2, Fidding The Facts (6-1 co-lax), 3, Him Of Praise (7-1) Earthnover, Eudope, General Walle, Island Chief 6-1 co-lax 13 /an.

3.20 | Resh Remark (11-10 tav), 2, Smiths Perk (10-11, 3, Eucky Ross (9-2), 14 ran.

4.25 1. Good Heart (12-1) 2. Langholm Lenting (6-1), 3, Baccas # (5-2 lan) 16 ran

1.50 1 Empire Gold (7.2) 2. Fred's in The know (9-1), 3, Incepta (4-3) Colestial Kny

2.20 1, DacoR (4.5 km) 2, Cumculus (3.1) 3, Honord Herbert (33.1) 7 ran NR EBa Falls

2.50 1, Mike Stan (9.2), 2, Invest Weeky (10-1), 3, Falcon's Flame (16-1), Young Terms 2.1 kg, 10 km,

3.25 1 Coolew (1-6 last, 2, Three Likes (12.1), 3 Double Buck (12.1), 5 (an NR 4.00 i Cettie Glant (12-1), 2. Unclo Bert (3-1) J. Parich (14-1) Bran's Delight 7-2 Lie 9 rain 4.30 f Dorans Way (4-1) C Lord Podyski (6-1) 3 Planning Chin (14-1) Joe Buzz 6-4

5.00 1 Christiansted (2-5 km) 2 Ac-cyclin (9-2) 3 Nag-r (7 I) 5 km

Going: Standard 1,35 1 Metody Queen (Evens fav. 2. Die im On Me (? 2) 3 Martha Really (16-1) 7 ren

2.40 1 Multarrab (9-2), 2 John Gowler Muse (9-2), 3 Kryslai Mar (6-1) Acad Test (00-30 far 8 tan 120-30 (A. S.I.an.) 3.15 I. **Pas de Memoiras** (3-1), 2. Refuse To Lose (4-6 Los), 3. Purastiment (2-2), 6

4.20 1 Azhann (7.4 lav) 2 Lucky Nemo (14-1), 3, Mass Take (15-2) 8 ray

Lingfield Park

Musselburgh

Gaine: from paged to farm at places.)

Haydock Park Going: soft (heavy in places)



Dr Leunt and Dunwoody take control in the Racing Post Chase at Kempton on Saturday

ous business. Sometimes, grievances forged in the heat of racecourse battle are most effectively doused by primitive means, to the superficial cost

of hissing and steam. Even so, the incident surely compromised Dunwoody's standing among his colleagues. Its larger context compounded concern about the former champion, whose talent is so justly treasured. An old arm injury was revived by a fall in January, and he has had one or two other nasty crash landings recently. He is heroically brave, make no mistake, with an utterly intransi-

2.00 Raivue

3.00 Durano

GOING: GOOD

(£2,463: 2m) (22 runners)

2.30 Fen Terrier

Timekeeper's too rating: 3.30 SNIPER.

2.00 ADVENT RACECOURSE CATERING MAIDEN HURDLE

NEWCASTLE

3.30 SNIPER (nap)

4.00 Charlie Banke

4.35 Dan De Man

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

BETTING, 3-1 Claredes Ersat, 7-2 Sillymore, 4-3 Ranue, 5-1 Papas, 7-1 Caus, 10-1 Karoma, 20-1 Terte Valley, Dumpis, 25-1 others,

1998 MORDRAGON 8-11-6 P Niven (10-1) Nrs M Revoley 12 san

RAIVLE has been taking on shonger opposition and can get oil the grow

201 2181-R CORSTON JONER 93 (CD.F.G) (A Lybara) L. Lungo 9-12-0 ... R. Supple 1282 ... 2F15F WELSH MARCH 42 (D.S) LI Reboom G.M. Mane 7-11-4 ... B. Barding 1283 ... 14-22P MARTER DE MASCH 42 (D.S) LI Robom H. Todhurine 8-11-3 ... R. Demonstry 123 ... 14-22P MARTER DE MASCH 90 (D.S.) H. Dopton H. Todhurine 8-11-3 ... R. Demonstry 123 ... 14-22 MARTER DE MASCH 90 (D.S.) H. Dopton H. Robom 120 ... 14-25 BRUSHTER SHADE 44 (D.F.G.S) (D.Fach Demonstry Lin) March 9-11-2 ... R. Bernet 120 ... 120 ... 14-25 BRUSHTER SHADE 24 (D.F.G.S) (D.Fach Demonstry Lin) H. Domey 9-11-3 R. McCannott (S. 197 ... 14-11-3 L. R. B. McCannott (S. 197 ... 14-11-3 L. R. B. McCannott (S. 197 ... 14-11-3 L. R. Shippin 48 ... 120 ... 120 ... 14-11-3 L. R. Shippin 120 ... 1

BETTME: 1-1 Matte De theaque 5-1 Mecha deuge 6-1 Corgon John Brighten Stane, La Rivista, 7-1 Weish March 10-1 Feb Force: Rachael 1 Ower, 20-1 Chest

1998 CORSTON JOKER 8-10-11 R Supply (5-2) L Lungs 7 cm

Constant Julier (**North Constant Const

MATTRE DE MUSIQUE tares la sage with heavy ground and tame and can return to form

3.00 NORTHERN COMPUTER FAIR SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (TOTE

BE BRAVE was remove; better at Catier of and car make amends despite his welfer burden

Long handicag: Nulta Nun 9-11, Nejech 9-11, Festial S Chen 9-11. La Rimoa 9-9

TRIFECTA RACE) (£1,700, 2m) (20 runnais)

2.30 SV RUTTER HANDICAP CHASE (£3,695: 2m 4f) (11 turners)

endured a thin time with winners of late, ending a barren sequence of 28 rides at Doncaster on Thursday. Though he will resent any such inference, this recent lack

of conviction could be attributable to two growing preoccupa-

First there is Florida Pearl. of whom Ireland has such crushing expectations in the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup. This horse could provide ample incentive for Dunwoody. 35, to look forward to next season. On the other hand, disappointment might conceivably prompt him to wonder what lies beyond the other immi-

nent junction in his career. His second success on Satur-

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day, in the bumper, was his 83rd of the season and leaves him just 17 short of Peter Scudamore's all-time record for career wins.

Dunwoody has already revealed the business acumen to keep him profitably busy when he does choose to retire. For now, happily, he can legitimately claim to preserve both his princely talent and the hunger that sustains it. The broad smile that Dr Leunt restored to his face reflected his satisfaction at riding the biggest winner so far trained by Philip Hobbs Dunwoody asserted his prerogative to the inside rail and always had Dr Leunt jumping slickly in the van while conserving enough to fight off The Land Agent in the closing stages. Dr Leunt now returns to Cheltenham, probably for the Cathcart Chase.

The same race is a possibility for Makounji after she cashed in on her preposterous allowances in the Mitsubishi Shogun Pendil Trophy. The Guinness Arkle Trophy is also under consideration by Nick Henderson, who shared two other Kempton winners with Fitzgerald to embellish their excellent season.

Henderson expects Katarino, favourite for the Elite Racing Club Triumph Hurdle, to be "a lot sharper" for his proficient rehearsal in the Voice Newspaper Adonis Juvenile Novices' Hurdle.

Not even Henderson's unerring touch, however, could elevate Fiddling The Facts from second place, for the third race running, in the Greenalls Grand National Trial at Haydock. Young Kenny, the winner, was given a splendid ride by Brendan Powell — a man, notionally, even more in the evening of his career than Dunwoody. There is, quite obviously, plenty of life in the old

3.30 STANLEY CASINOS HANDICAP CHASE (£3,695: 3m) (8 runners)



BETTING: 5-2 Toni's Tip. 11-4 Committed Schedule. 7-2 Gale Force. 7-1 List Option, Shoper 12-1 others 1998: ALY DALEY 10-11-3 E Callaghan (10-1) J Howard Johnson 8 ran

Act The Wag 3/4 4th of 17 in Belment King in handicap chace grade 3 at 2 and 14 and 15 SNIPER tound 3% miles into its here last time but has sold claims on earlier note.

4.00 LADBROKE HURDLE (SHOWCASE HANDICAP)

(£5,150. 3n	1) (7 runners)
502 6-1P41 503 1-3P04 504 064-11 505 141132 506 324053	THE BUTTERWICK NO. 18 (S) (B Cramber, E Mrs. M Kenyot) B Fater, 6-12-0 L. Wyer 102 CHARLE BANGER 12 (D.F.S.) (B A C Pannes) K Butte 7-10-3 A Bookbin 1993 A C PANNES OF COMMENT OF THE STANDARS OF COMPANY OF THE STANDARS OF THE STANDA
Long handicap.	Topothenorthactog 9-13, Misty Class 9-12.

BETTIME: 2-1 What A Tale, 7-2 The Butterwick Kdt. 4-1 Springfield Scally, 5-1 Charles Barter, 6-1 Abachte, 10-1 Topotheronthracky, 12-1 Misty Class.

1998: MVEST WISELY 6-10-7 it Gentley (9-1) M Hammond 9 ran

CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY AND AS TO	
Haydook (2m 4L solt). Cr	arfie Banker bezi Shardante 2f in 10-numer n
ica handicau husdle al Mu	esselburch (3m, good to first. Attasfale 13t 4t
22 to Jownoody in handican burdle at Newcastle (3m. nood to s	ok). What A Tale beat Native Buck 1's in 9-i
ier novice kuidle al Cattenck (3m 1f 110vd. soli). Sodnotie	id Scally 31:1 2nd of 17 to Sharo Command
andicap burdle at Catesack (3m 1) 1 10yd, good) with Attaitei Nel 3rd of 14 to i'm The Man in handicap hurdle at Mussell	e (10lb better off) 771 i 16: Topothenorthrac
N-I 3rd of 14 to Pay The Man in handicas hundle at Mussell	usch (3m. nood). Miczy Class 12i 5m ar 19
arhedral Belle in handicag huidle at Hurbrigdon (2m St 1):	lyd. 508).
ATTADALE (inicided loarth in a much more competite	or race tast time and will be hard to heat
Ut they was discitled to the state of the st	E 1845 ATM TAILS GIRD MAIL DE 1841 IN THE

Azones 523 10th of 14 to Es Go in manden handle in Caterick (2m, good to 2nth Caterick). Azones 523 10th of 14 to Es Go in manden handle in Caterick (2m, good to 2nth Caterick). Azones 523 10th of 14 to Es Go in manden handle in Caterick (2m, good to 2nth Caterick). As a condition of the Caterick (2m, good to 2nth Caterick). As an an Onanta's Good in fewer large (1m 10 to 10 4.35 James fletcher marquees novices chase (£2,931: 2m 4l) (7 runners)

601 482-01 DISTANT HBLIS 13 (6) (R Nestrift) J Dodds 7-11-4 A Magaire 47 502 221/P ADVENTURUS 28 (F) (A Stewart) M Hammond 7-11-3 B Harding -- 603 PUPPSP CHARAMIC MOSS 16 (6) (D Proster P 11-13 A Obtaine 904 -- 11233 DAN DE MAN 9 (D.6.5) (D Profter Partnership) Mess L Sickall 8-11-3 A Obtain (777) 605 2-0020 HARDEN GLEN 37 (5) (M Walton) J Storey 8-11-3 B Storey 8-607 33302- UP FOR RANSOME 296 (F) (Afra S J Magn 7-11-3 B Storey 9-607 33302- UP FOR RANSOME 296 (F) (Afra C Woodley) Mrs A Raughton 10-11-3 J Supple 90 BETTRIG: 4-6 Dan De Man. 7-2 Ostani Hills, 7-1 Harden Glen, 10-1 Un For Ransome, 30-1 others.

Distant Hills beat Heavy Hustler 71 in 15 number notice chase at Seagn-levid.
(2m 54, pond). Charming Moss pulled up in notice chase at Apr (2m 54, pond). Charming Moss pulled up in notice chase at Apr (2m 54, pond). Distance in the chase at Netso 13m 11, soil). Dan De Main 34 3th of 5 is Aphysiochida Gold in notice place at Netso at Newtonia Gold in notice place at Newtonia (2m 1104, opon) in soil). Harden Gen 37 3th of 10 to Castelation Court in notice place at Castelation (2m 31, soil). Judicious Charle peater a distance 17 to 18 to 48 to 48 (Cong) in notice hustle at Democrate (2m 1104d, good). Up For Parsonne 3 2nd of 17 to Belle Bust in notice chase at Healton (3m 11, good). CIAN DE MAN, disappointing list time, chould still prove too strong for Distant Hills

5.05 DONCASTER BLOODSTOCK SALES/EBF MARIES STANDARD OPEN NH FLAT RACE (£1,564: 2m) (15 runners)



Honey Spice bestoo a distance 18th of 19 to Arraydoutrievou of restorate hand left race at Carfelle (2m 11, good to solt). Lambinit Lady 2df 5th of 11 to be 0.00 at an insulance hand but race at Towerster (2m, solt). Southern Belle 28 4th of 14 to Graycos Pieur in manter restorat hand that it Bengin: (2m 11 good). Wordby Danier hear at stance best of 17 to becam's Eye or maticin ned burt lag at Camerick (2m, solt), Wyrryard Carregel 19 6th of 18 to Southern in realised burt fail at a Domeaster (2m 110yd, good). Early Dassy 11 2nd of 3 to Ballet K in maters national hunt find at Ayr (2m, solt).

		COL	JRSE	SPECIALIST	rs		
TRAINERS MIS M Reveloy J Jeffe son F Margary M W Easterby L Lungo W Containgham	Wins 48 12 8 12 11 3	Reps 190 58 45 85 78 24	% 25.3 21.4 17.8 14.1 14.1 12.5	JOCKEYS A Dempsey P Niver A Magnuse A Doubin R McGrath R Supple	Wins 5 42 4 17 7 12	Rors 12 141 25 123 59 104	% 41.7 29.6 16.0 13.8 11.9

Direct Route bid in balance

DIRECT ROUTE, a leading contender for the Queen Mother Champion Chase at the Cheltenham Festival on March 17, is not certain to run. Howard Johnson's Tingle Creek winner broke a blood vessel when finishing fourth to Teeton Mill in the Mitsubi-

shi Shogun Ascot Chase nine days ago.

"We haven't had a saddle on him since Ascot," Johnson said yesterday. "He's just out in the field. I don't know what to do about Cheltenham with him at the moment. He'll start cantering again this week and then I'll know a bit more. He lost a lot of weight at Ascot and we are only just getting it back on him. He's still in at Cheltenham and we'll try and get him there but it's not the be all and end all."

Pritchard takes honours

POINT-TO-POINT BY CARL EVANS

JULIAN PRITCHARD took Saturday's riding honours when landing a treble at the North Herefordshire's Whit-

wick Manor meeting. Pritchard, 31, who lives nearby at Ledbury and who has been national champion rider for the past two seasons. leapt into second place in the table with nine winners, one behind the leader, Ben Pollock, who achieved a single success on Tombola at the Essex Farmers meeting.

A competitive person. Pritch-ard rued the winners that got

away. "It should have been six," he said, reflecting on an additional two second places and a fall when on his way to victory in the maiden.

His three wins came on Cruise A Hoop (3-1), who brushed aside Better Future (4-6) in the 14-runner men's open. Capstown Bay (5-4) and Blue Rosette (5-4), who took divisions of the restricted race the first two were for trainer Nickie Sheppard and the third for the rider's mother, Gill.

Cruise A Hoop, whose fast and flat jumping is ideally suited to point-to-point fences, is a consistent horse and his defeat of Better Future was less of a shock than the eclipse of Apatura King at the Hursley Ham-

bledon meeting. With Lord Relic absent after being pinched by a farrier's nail, Apatura King was sent off the odds-on favourite but faded into fifth as Buonarotti (7-1) raffied to peg back The Bold Abbot. The winner was completing a double for Katie Buckett, the Hampshire trainer, who also saddled Forest Musk to land the hunt race.

PEUMPTON

2.20 Anns Girl. 2.50 Polar Flight. 3.20 Strong Tel. 3,50 Doctor Bravious, 4.25 Whippers Delight.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT

2.20. HEADWAY HURSTWOOD PARK MAIDEN HURDLE (£2,653: 2m 1f) (13 runners)

2.50 PARAFIX TAPES AND CONVERSIONS LTD NOVICES HURDLE (£2,548: 2m 4f) (14)

NOVICES HURDLE (E2.548: 2m 4l) (14)

1 FIF4 ARMA 170 (6) J Tuck 8-11-13 ... H Oliver (5) —
FIF GEMSTONE 40 (5) M5 D Harine 5-11-8 ... J Outley 87

3 2-12 POLAR FLIGHT 89 (87-CD-5) M8:s V Williams 5-11-8 ... N Williamson SISSE

4 F40 AMERICAN STYLE 95 Ms | McKer 7-11-3 ... H Thomson 31

5 U-0 CASHARAN 67 J Sorb 6-11-3 ... Ms N Feithy (7) —
6 H. JUBAL 2026F M Maggendge 9-11-3 ... Ms N Feithy (7) —
7 I ART MISSEHAMYN MKS; 2 Devision 7-11-3 ... Lease Long 9

8 /PP JUST A BEAU 312 Miss An Smith 8-11-3 Edgare Byrne (7) —
9 404 POUNSLEY MILL 59 J GROWG 6-11-3 ... W Marston 11

1 P THE BORGEN STALKER 12 L A Dacis 8-11-3 C Burrows (5) —
12 25-0 TDF RED RECTOR 16 K Balley 6-11-3 ... R Waldey 16
13 PP20 WISDE WONDER 21 (G) M Bracktock 9-11-3 ... R Waldey 16
13 PP20 WISDE WONDER 21 (G) M Bracktock 9-11-3 ... R Waldey 16
14 6 WHERE'S ALBERT 12 J P Poursley Mill 10-1 Abra. The Red Rector. 11-10 Pota Flight, 11-4 Gensione 8-1 Poursley Mill, 10-1 Atma, The Red Rector, 14-1 Wage Wonder, 16-1 Strataines Pride, 25-1 others.

3.20 HEADWAY HURSTWOOD PARK HOVICES CHASE (£2,819: 3m 1f 110yd) (4)

5-4 Scong Tel. 2-1 Emerald Statement. 3-1 Woodlands Beau, 14-1 Edge Ahead.

3.50 LADBROKES LAST RACE HANDICAP HURDLE

(FINAL) (£5,714: 2m 1f) (7) (FINAL) (£5,714; 2ff) 11) (7)

1 124 MESSUN DORO 13 (£0,5) S Meltor 7-12-0 Mr N Fenilly (7) 99

2 2345 TICKERTY'S GIFT 24 (B.F.G.S) G L Moore 9-17-10

3 4661 It'S WALLACE [4 (B.C.S) J C Pouriton 6-16-12 M Batchelor (5) 106

4 0115 DOCTOR BRAVIOUS 11 (B.BF,CD.S) J R Poulton 6-16-5 Equal Syrre (7) 105

5 115P ZAFARELU 14 (B.CD.S) J January 5-10-4 R Farrant 77

6 4822 STUDIO THRITY 14 (D.G.S) R Dicker 7-10-1 N Williamson 95

7 5233 DERISBAY 28 (B.CD.F.G.S) J Biorger 11-10-0

3-1 Skutko Thirty 7-2 Tichasty's GOL 5-1 Dicator Glawous, 11-2 Messuri Doro, 6-7 M's Hallace 7-1 Zata etk. 16-1 Denstay

4.25 GAY KINDERSLEY AMATEUR RIDERS HANDI-

CAP CHASE (£3,420: 3m 1f 110yd) (7) 1 P110 DANCETILLYCUDROP 7 (D.S) P Nicholis 8-11-10 J Young (7) 111 1 P110 DARCETILLYOUGHUP 7 (J.S.) P RECORDS 8-11-10
2 U1P5 KILMINGTON 46 (CD.F.G.S.) J Gallon 10-11-3
R P Varian (7) 111
3 U164 WHPPERS DELIENT 10 (CD.G.S.) 6 Chaike-Jones 11-10-10
1 Minogan 11-10-10
1 Mi

2-1 Garreon Friendly, 7-2 Kitmangton, 9-3 Calleya Star, 5-1 Dancehillyoudrop, Wiley pers Delight, 16-1 Sacctano, 33-1 Northern Vallage

4.55 CLAYTON MARES ONLY HANDICAP HURDLE

(£2,373: 2m 4f) (7) 1 8100 MY TERN 4 (S) L Welt 5-11-10 ... A P McCov 71 2 48-P SELECTIVE ROSE 65 J Snuth 8-11-5 ... R Johnson 85 3 6435 ROYAL RILLER 86 J Gillord 8-10-11 O Burnows (5) 83 4 700P POPUM 4 No. P Deline 8-10-6 ... J Califord 8-10-1 ... J Califord 8-10-1 ... J Califord 8-10-6 ... R Thomson 8-10-6 ... D Griffiths - 11-0 DERRYSELLE 11 (F.G.) D Wilsons 8-10-5 ... D Griffiths - 2P-P BLL GEE 21 (B) Mix P Toutskey 9-10-0 ... Mixs C Toutskey (7) --2 My Tem, 7-2 Royal Ruler, 9-2 Selective Rose, 5-1 Papfin, 17-2 Darrybelle, 8-1 olden Lily, 33-1 Eli Gea.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Pipe. 30 minners from 66 numers, 45 5%, 6 Charles Jones 4 from 10, 40,0%, N Nenderson, 7 from 20, 35 0%, Mes V Witlams, 4 from 13, 30,0%, M Maggetidge, 4 from 15, 75,7%; T McGovern, 11 from 54, 20,4%. JOCKEYS: A P McCoy, 39 visuses from 111 ndes, 35 1%, C Webb 4 from 12, 33.7%, R Johnson, 8 from 34, 23 5%, G Branley, 8 from 35, 22 9%, F Williamson, 6 from 35, 17 1%, W Marston, 8 from 52, 15.4%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Newcastle: 3,00 Kemo Sabo Plumpton: 2,20 General Assembly. 4 \$5 Eli Gea.

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER 1.40 Desert Invader. 2.10 Kosevo. 2.40 Irish Cream. 3.10 Anonym. 3.40 Westside Flyer. 4.10 Challepin. 4.45 Chaluz, 5.15 Dick Turpin.

GOING: STANDARD Draw: NO ADVANTAGE

1.40 caucasus amateur riders handicap

i: £1,322. (g) (11 runiners)

2-1 The Woodcook, 7-2 Gadge, 7-1 Leotine, Deobrae, 8-1 Dazzing Stone, Ring The Cheel, 10-1 Almacher, 12-1 others.

2.10 CAUCASUS AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP (Div II. £1,514: 7f) (10)

1 2360 LINE PROJECT 31 (CD) R Corpes 7-11-7 Mees N Croque (5) 1
2 100- PRIE RIDGE LAD 273 (CD.8) J. L Harr. 9-11-5 S Walter (6) 10
3 0550 KISEVO 17 (V.CD) D Stem 5-10-12
4 4-22 KASS ALHAWA 17 (SP.C.D.F.E.S.) D Chapman 6-10-9
Mees R Clark. 6
5 3463 AWESOME VENTURE 7 (S) M Chapman 9-10-7 J.P McHamara 7
6 U/10 MEL CHANKA 13 P Hosting 7-10-6 ... Miss C Hardiow (5) 3
7 00-2 SHAMMON 17 P Hazzon 7-10-1 Mee C Williams (3) 2
8 06-0 MILLAGH HEL LAD 9 (8) N Lebroden 6-9-13 L Paddock (7) 4
9 4005 SERRATE 10 R Natron 5-9-5 ... Mes S Bozery 5
10 0-00 FIGHTER SCHARON 5 (B.C.D.F.6.S) R PERMOZ (19-3)
Mes C Pascock (5) 9
2 New Alterna 3-1 Lan Bozet (5) Pos Refer to 5 1 5 1 From 8-1 Memory nesi is Peacock (3) 1 5-2 Kass Altana, 3-1 Live Project, 5-1 Pune Ridge Lad, 6-1 Kosero, 8-1 Melomani 10-1 Avestome Veroure, 12-1 Sharmorus, 20-1 orbers

2.40 ROCKY STAKES (3-Y-0: £2,341: 1m) (2)

i S Intern Creason, 7-2 Socientis Lucily

3.10 RICHARD HARDWICK 21ST BIRTHDAY HANDICAP (£3,767; 1m) (8)

| 010- JAY-ONE-TMO 79 (C.D.F.S) R Whitairs 5-9-11 D Hokenwn 1
2 1204 JREFIERR 26 (DD F G.S) P Provang 7-9-9 ... S Whitaron's 3
3-36- UNSA MAJOR 69 (DD) C JULE 5-9-7 ... J Wester 4
4 0440 GODMERSHAIS PARK 12 (DD) P Felcer 7-5-10 . 6 Poston 3
5 -331 MAGGEAL SHOT 7 (BF.D) D Carrie 4-8-8 R Reference (5) 2
6 1362 WAITING KNIGHT 3 (V.D.) & San N Jazzauley 4-8-5 P McClabe 8
7 -521 WAITING KNIGHT 3 (V.D.) & San N Jazzauley 4-8-5 P McClabe 8
5 2-10 ANDRYIS 17 (DD.F.G) G M Moore 7-7-10 ... J Charto 7
8 D-21 ANDRYIS 17 (DD.F.G) G M Moore 7-7-10 ... J Charto 7 3-1 Ebereen, 9-2 Jay-Owe-Two. 11-2 Waters Wright, 6-1 Ursa Mayor. 13-2 Godina-Jaan Pay. 7-1 Wedding, 8-1 Mayord Shot. 10-1 Andrews.

3.40 APENNINES SELLING HANDICAP (Div I: £1,522: 6f) (11)

7-2 Abzail, 9-2 Light Burr, 5-1 Westaide Piver, 6-1 Rock Island Cine, 7-1 Nike Outer, 8-1 Kalar, 12-1 Above Board, Strarp Raydon, 16-1 others.

4. I U Sierra Madre Maiden Stakes (£2,034: 1m 4f) (6)

6 0 VISOROUS STROLL 31 P S McEmee 3-8-3 ... I-2 Hearthyards Jelse, 5-1 Charlagon, 7-1 Kindoury. 14-1 Appyatoo, 16-1 Linea-6, 20-1 Roomers Street

4.45 APENNINES SELLING HANDICAP

(Div II: £1,514: 60) (11) 7-7 Chalus, 9-2 Stat's Quest, 5-1 Love Opera, 6-1 fize Age, 7-1 Ramsey Hope, 8-1 Rolls, 10-1 Johnny Statesto, 12-1 others.

5.15 PYRENEES HANDICAP (£3,585: 1m 3f) (7)

1 - 532 MBHT CTY 27 (9F.D.F.G.S) K Burks 8-10-0 ... D Sweeney 7 2 4113 DRX TURPRY 14 (BF.CD) B Smart 5-9-10 ... P Dobbs (7; 5 3 222- RAED 79J (BF.CD) MS A Swettanth 6-9-10 ... E Doffeit 4 3332 DANCHMS RIO 6 (C.B.S) P Hastam 4-9.8 ... P Goode (5) 1 5 5325 SWRT 5 (F.G) M Poliques 5-8-11 D McKeown 2 5 5512 GREEN BOPPER 5 (CD.G) 5 Whodward 6-11 . C Lowrine 3 7 30-0 MANRIL 14 (B.CD.F.S) J Hetherton 7-7-10 ... L Charnock 6 7-4 Great Bopper, 7-2 Dick Turpin S-1 Faed. 7-7 Night Cay, Santt, 8-1 Dancing Rio. 25-1 Markiti

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRANSERS. A kelleway, 6 woners from 11 numers, 54.5%, M. Johnston, 4 from 21, 19.0%, P. Mastam, 24 from 131. 18.3%, Mrs. M Reveloy, 15 from 90, 16.7%, P. Manting, 9 from 64, 14.1% JOCKEYS: R FinPatrick, 8 wheners from 26 rides, 30 8%, N Day, 8 from 36 22.2% Numberley Hart, 11 from 53, 20 2%, P Fredericks, 5 from 27, 18,5% G Parlan, 12 from 69, 17 4%; J Wesser, 37 from 225, 16 4%

Notice to existing Barclays mortgage customers

Variable mortgage rates will change as follows:

	Old Rate	New Rate
Barclays Mortgage Rate	7.45%	6.95% Effective from In: March 1999
Barclays Home Mortgage Rate	7.45%	6.95% Effective fiven

If you have any queries concerning this mortgage rate change call 0800 000 929 between 8.00am and 8.00pm, Monday to Friday, or between 10.00am and 4.00pm on Saturdays.

BARCLAYS





TRIFECTA RACE) (£1,700, 2m) (20 numbers) 301 S24122 SE BRAVE 16 (8,87.05) (Ast 5 Protes) TEbermann 9-12-4 0 McPhal (8) 90 303 12-490 MITHRAIC 102 (CD,F.G) (7, P.2) Racing W Camarchian 7-11-6 10 Smith 87 303 12-490 MITHRAIC 102 (CD,F.G) (7, P.2) Racing W Camarchian 7-11-6 10 Smith 87 304 10 Store Read No. 24 (CG,F.G) (7, P.2) Racing W Camarchian 7-11-6 10 Smith 87 305 40 Store Read No. 24 (CG,F.G) (7, P.2) Racing W Camarchian 7-11-6 10 Smith 87 305 40 Store Read No. 24 (CG,F.G) (7, P.2) Racing W Camarchian 7-11-1 10 McCommet (3) 45 305 60-6 WESTERN 20 (D,F.G) (8, McCommet (4, MmRter 7-11-1) 10 Score W RESTERN 10 (D,F.G) (8, McCommet (4, MmRter 7-11-1) 10 Score W RESTERN 10 (D,F.G) (8, McCommet (4, MmRter 7-11-1) 10 Score W RESTERN 10 (C,F.G.S) (9 Camarchia 7-10-11 10 Score W RESTERN 10 (C,F.G.S) (9 Camarchia 8 Racing 7-10-11 10 Score (7, P.2) (10 Camarchia 7-10-11 10 Score (7, P. Long Nambriago Figurer 9-10 Services 9-5 Mountee Orient 9-5 Point Parts, 9-4 Over Stated 9-3 Just Date 9-2 Mesticated 9-1 Service 8-15 BETTING, 4-1 St. State, 5-1 for Matrian 13-2 Duction 7-1 Court State, 5-1 Prody Fair, Carbony, 10-1 Remo Sabo. 1998: SEE BY SEE 5-10-4 M Foster (11-1) C Compan 13 ran 1998 SAPE BY SIDE STILL AN POSE 111-11 C Torman 13 ran Be Britten next Jinu of 15 m Ractiment in selling builde at Cattench (Jan. Good with Duration (Cit Eners off) 5 11 4th, Automation (17th Detter off) Good with Duration (Cit Eners off) 5 11 4th, Automation (17th Detter off) In Lard Rat in capture, hereoco houde at Education (Earl III), Opecity with Noble Neutron 30 9th of 19 m Meconshare Distore of Selling handward builde at Catteriot (Earl III), Opecity with Noble Neutron 30 9th of 19 m Meconshare Distore of Selling handward builde at Catteriot (Earl III), Opecity with Mecadomiech (Sib Detter off) guilded us, Philody Fair 9 6th of 11 to Distract Work in Handward (2th Detter with in Selling handward handward (2th Detter with in Selling handward handward (2th Detter with in Selling handward handward (2th Detter off) 311 8th Outstury book After Selling handward (2th Detter off) 311 8th Outstury book After Selling handward handward (2th Detter off) 311 8th Outstury book After Selling handward handward (2th Detter off) 311 8th Outstury book After Selling handward handward (2th Detter off) 311 8th Outstury book After Selling handward handward at Catterior (3th, 19th). Semanded 501 16th off Otto Mechadomied in Administration and the After Selling handward handward at Catterior (3th, 19th). Semanded 501 16th off Otto Mechadomied in Administration and Catterior (3th, 19th). Semanded 501 16th off Otto Mechadomied in Administration and Catterior (3th, 19th). Semanded 501 16th off Otto Mechadomied in Administration and Catterior (3th, 19th). Semanded 501 16th off Otto Mechadomied in Administration and Catterior (3th, 19th). Semanded 501 16th off Otto Mechadomied in Administration and Catterior (3th, 19th). Semanded 501 16th off Otto Mechadomied in Administration and Catterior (3th, 19th). Semanded 501 16th off Otto Mechadomied in Administration and Catterior (3th, 19th). Semanded 501 16th off Otto Mechadomied in Administration off Otto Mechadomied III 18th off Otto Mechadomied II 18th off Otto Mechadomied II 1

When there's more to fishing than fish

Brian Clarke finds

that a watching

brief on new waters can pay dividends

he motto of a club that I belong to is Piscator non solum piscatur. It more or less translates as "there is more to fishing than fish". Roderick Haig-Brown, the great English writer who lived in America, went further. He suggested that fishing might just be an excuse to be near

Anyone who has held a rod for a season or two will agree with the first. Last week, exploring a new piece of water that I will be fishing this year, I came close to believing the second. I had gone to get my bearings: to relate the plan on the map to the view from the bank; to dip myself into the sights and sounds; to droot just a little. So I took no rod.

It was a splodging walk. The river had been over its banks for weeks and had just slid back. Pools were winking from the meadows like scattered coins. The grass was laid flat as though by a wind. The debris of the flood was all around - trapped in trailing branches or left high and dry where the water had dropped it.

The first place I came to was a shallow bay. Bird tracks and animal tracks marked pathways around the margins. A sudden movement smudged my eye and I half-glimpsed fur. It crossed the ground between a couple of fallen branches and melted between them. It had been low and fluid, had been there and gone so quickly that I might have imagined it. A pity that I hadn't. A mink. Damn. A little upstream, a willow had

fallen over the water. It was massively tangled, so dense that it pushed the heavy water into the far bank. Beyond the tree's end, the river raced. Behind the tree in summer, there would be slow water. A crinkle on the surface would mark the divide. Fish would be able to lie in the slow water and dine on the food that the fast water dropped.

The crinkle would be an excellent place for chub, dace, roach, trout -you name it. Barbel might lie out in the current. There would be at least one pike in the calm behind the branch. It would lie there, cold as a mortuary slab, waiting for a victim, its fins turning and idling, its tailedge crinkling, ready to move forward like an aimed shadow, ready



One to bank on: catching a prized predator will bring smiles, but sometimes just being near to a river may be enough to satisfy an angler

to gather itself for its ravening

Further upstream, I startled a snipe. A heron laboured overhead, tilted a little, bent its wings over curves of air and glided down them into the near middle-distance. The pennants of last year's sedges streamed in a non-existent wind.

Ice in a puddle crunched underfoot. I had been told about the Bailey bridge. It crossed the top of one of the beats that is reserved for trout fishing. The water slid under the bridge and widened into a great sweep of pewter, rumpling and racing. In summer it would be shallow enough to wade. Sometimes, I had

There would be at least one pike behind the branch, lying cold as a mortuary slab, waiting for a victim'

been told, great fish were taken from this stretch, mostly at last

I stood on the bridge and looked downstream. The world faded. I could feel the warmth of June and see the sun going low and the ripefor-mating flies gauzing the air. Broad backs would break the surface and rings ebb out. That will

be the wading line, if the bottom is good. The likely casting points would be there and there. I smiled. All nonsense, of course. When the river dropped, its character would change utterly and there would be no real telling where the fish would be. Still, I got two just by day-

crossed to the carrier that has the hatches in the middle. A beer can turned in endless circles in a vortex behind one of the gates. An oink of Canada geese wafted overhead. Two fallow deer, wearing their white hearts on their rumps, appeared from behind a bush and

bounded away. The carrier is trout-only, as well. It looked as though it was going to be early-season water with only the upper part holding fish when the river had dropped. I hoped that summer would prove me wrong, which would suit me fine. The fishing was going be upstream fly only, which suited me ditto.

To the mill Another eventful walk, now through fine rain and a

rising breeze. Snowdrops were out

under an ageing oak. A heap of mat-ted feathers told of disaster for something and triumph for some

thing else: nature as red as ever in

tooth and beak. A formation of ducks flighted downwind, like an arrowhead homing. A line of young willows marked a short

reach of bank, their shoots so red

that they made each tree glow. Close-up in the rain, every twig was threaded with half-moons of cut

mill-pools awesome. in one-direc-

tion there were swims that looked made for barbel. In the other, sitting like a garden gnome under a green umbrella, an old hand was

leaning back in his chair, watching his float.

reduce the flooding had ruined the

bottom and now there weren't

enough waterfleas to feed the little

fish. Fewer little fish meant fewer

big fish, he explained — but if I put in the hours I would get the results.

he could promise me that.

I took a look at the big bends upstream - at the Log Swim, at Blue

Bridge Pool and at somewhere else

- then paused under an ancient

tree to look around. There was a

brush of wings and a great bird suddenly broke cover above my head and wafted noiselessly away. What

a treat: a barn owl so close that I could have touched it with a rod-

end. I had a wonderful view of it,

saw its dished eyes clearly, saw

clearly the pale honey of its back before the bird showed its belly and

I watched the owl out of sight

then turned back to the car. I did

not hurry. By the time I was into it

and scrunching down the track, I

was as relaxed and mellow as any

day has left me. It had been a full

day's fishing — almost — even with-out the rod. Piscator non solum pis-

catur. Just being near a river-can

☐ Brian Clarke's column appears

on the first Monday of each month

instantly turned white.

be enough.

e had fished this river

for 40 years, it was

good but not what it

used to be. Dredging to

Dunne's talents shown on Holiday

BY SRIKUMAR SEN BOXING CORRESPONDENT

COLIN DUNNE made new friends as he was finally given the exposure on television to prove his worth. The four million viewers who watched him on ITV on Saturday night cannot have failed to see what a crowd-pleaser the World Boxing Union lightweight champion is. Dunne took on Phillip Holiday, of South Africa, who many thought to be well above his class — and beat him out of

Holiday was only able to impose his much-vaunted technical superiority in short bursts and had to keep moving forward in the hope of wiping out the points deficit. As a result, the bout moved to an exciting conclusion with the crowd on its feet as Holiday tried to find a big punch and

Dunne refused to give way. After receiving a cut just be-low his hairline in the fifth round. Holiday seemed to lose his earlier sharpness and concentration as blood poured steadily down his face. The ring doctor said that the flow of blood was not getting in his eyes and so it would not have been proper to stop the contest.

Dunne took full advantage. The aim of Dunne's manager, Terry Toole, is to now get his boxer a contest that will make some money. John Hyland, the promoter, was hoping to make a match with Billy Schwer, the European champion However, Mickey Duff, Schwer's manager, said that, as Schwer had a chance to challenge for the WBC title. Dunne would have to wait.

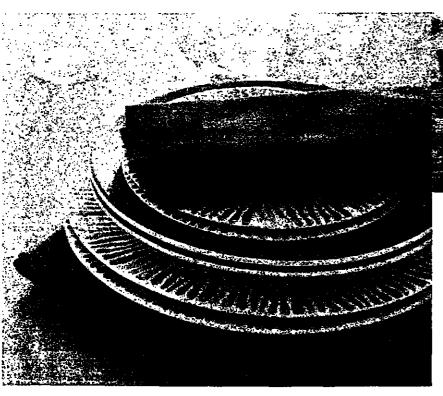
Referring to the gash Holi-day sustained, and no doubt the fact that Schwer tends to cut easily, Duff parried Hyland's offer. "Dunne is dangerous with his head," he said. "With the world title fight in the offing for Schwer, it would be an unnecessary fight to take."

Oldham death, page 5

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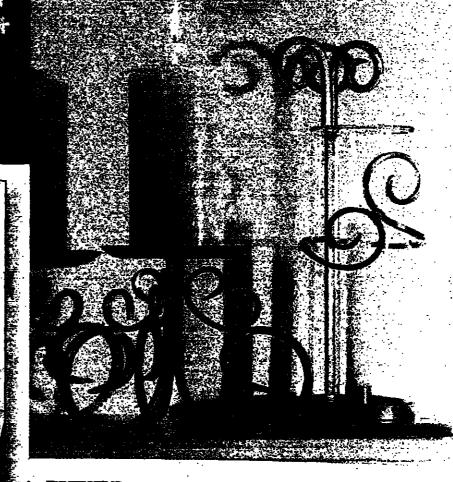
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CHANGING TIMES



SWALEC Cup

Abersvon 12 Cardiff

Aberavon: Pens: C Rees 4 Cardiff: Tries: S Hd 2. G Thomas. Com: Burke Pen: Burke HT: 6-5. Blackwood 9 Tredegar 12

Blackwood: Pens: Lay 3. Tredegar. Pens: M Jones 4 HT: 6-3 (after extra time)

Sixth round

Weish League First division

20

12

Liandovery 22 Newbridge

Llandovery: Tries: S Lews, penalty by, H Thomas Come: Harcox 2 Pen: Hencox Newbridge: Tries: Penyment, Scencer Com; Samuels, Pene: Williams 2 HT: 10-5

Rumney 25 Aberillery 11
Rumney: Tries: Bowcott, Daves, K Lee.
Ryca Corr: Daves, Perc Daves, Aberillery: Try: D Wilsams, Pents: Stent 2, HT:
5-11.

Hawick 21 Heriot's FP 47

Hamidic Tries: Carston 2, Gray Pens: Mucie 2, Heriot's FP: Tries: Walter 2, Short, J Smoth. Const: Ross 5, Pens: Ross 4 HT: 8-26. Jed-Forest 27 Currie 55

Jed-Forest: Triest: Luttle 2, Lardow Const: C Fischards 3 Peas: C Richards 2 Currier: Triest: Fised 3, Amstrong, Bowne, Caldwell, M Thompson, Const: Donaldson 7, Peas: Donaldson 2, HT: 13-27.

SECOND DIVISION: Bective Rangers 19 Doppher 16. DLSP 17 Malone 15. Derry 21 Greystones 22. Dungamon 30 Old Belve-dare 21: Portadown 21 Old Crescent 19.

dare 21: Portacione 21 Old Crescent 19 Skortes 8 Wanderers 13: Sunday's Weit 19 Old Wesley 10: UCC 30 Ballynahanch 15

SUPER 12 TOURNAMENT: Cals (SA) 33 ACT Brumbes 22, Otago Highlanders 19 Auctiand Bues 13 'Queensland 11 Welling-ton 0 Soumars (SA) 42 Northem Bulls 19 Durban Sharks 13 New South Wales 13.

Rosslyn Park: Tries: A Milkand 2, Benson, Bicardman Justice McComman Cont.
T innoales: Pent: T Knowles: Newflumy: Tries: Sake, Barmon Hatt Holloway Coms: Graham 2, HT; 25-5 Allt 600
Wharfedate: 38 Montey 14
Wharfedate: Tries: Mountey 3 Auss Bucknood: Sake, Pens: Cont. Pears. Pens: Pears 2 Montey: Tries: Standaven, Thompson Conts: Bamber 2, MT; 25-14

roud. Expres. Pears. Cent. Pears. Pears.
Pears 2 Mortey: Tribes Standards. Thompson Const. Bamber 2 HT: 28-14

P W D L F A Pts

Ktanchester 22 18 0 4 642 272 36
Hensey 21 17 1 3 515 266 35

Gifton 22

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH: Bracknell 16
Estes 11 Chalterham 3 Sarking 22 Norwich 41 Met Police 3 Plymouth 11 North
Washam 23 Rednich 49 Bridginger 17.
Tabard 11 Hawart 14 Weston-super-Mare 7

Be it with flowers or hampers, pamper her

matically over the past cen-tury and will continue to do so into the next, but on the eve of the millennium the dream of the perfect mother continues to hover on the edges of our lives. Because the role of motherhood is such an emotive one it is easy to place it on a pedestal and find fault with mothers who are

thought not to measure up.

Hardly a week goes by without mothers who are single, mothers who work, mothers who are too old and those who are too young coming in for some form of criticism.

Even the celebration of Mother's Day, or Mothering Sunday, held on the fourth Sunday in Lent since the Middle Ages (this year it falls on March 14), was originally an on-erous one. It was the day on which the congregations of daughter churches honoured the mother church by visiting it in processions, carrying banners. After the Reformation this solemn celebration was transferred to honour the mother of the family.

There are no banners now, but whether you celebrate Mother's Day by serving her breakfast in bed, with freshly baked croissants (frozen beforehand, then slightly heated), a new honey or jam pot as a keepsake and a spray of flowers. or whether you organise a surprise

Susan MacDonald offers advice on what to buy for Mothering Sunday

and presents — such as hampers — available on the Internet.

If you live in or near East Lon-

don, the Sunday morning Colum-

bia Road flower market is not only a lovely place to stroll around, but it also provides a wonderful array of

plants and cut flowers at market

prices, and the street is lined with

shops selling ceramic pots, garden and house ornaments and antique

Stylish transparent Perspex bowls and dishes can be filled with chocolates, nuts or fruit for the occa-

sion and it is easy to find brands of

bathroom toiletries that come in bottles so elegant that they just cannot

be thrown away. There is also some

beautiful costume jewellery around

this may be something she thinks about buying but never gets

round to doing.

And if you find you are stuck

with buying flowers at the petrol station on Sunday morning, pur-chase a couple of bunches in the

same colour range and make them

into one large bunch. The idea of

the gift, whether large or small, is

to pamper and bring pleasure.

The responsibility of being a

mother can weigh heavy. After all,

trip to Venice for the weekend — a dream city for a much-loved mum — it is the honouring of her individual worth that counts.

Magazine articles abound with ideas on what to give. If she really has a sense of humour, there is a Swatch watch with the words "Dear mum. it's time to say thank

you" there on the face.

Lovely though presents are,

Mother's Day is not just about giving treats. It is also the day for letting her know how much she is valued and appreciated. Giving a complete fashion or facial makeover would be great, giving a new frying pan would not — unless it is one she would really love to have.

It is important to think seriously about what to buy, and to think ahead. Trying to order flowers the afternoon before Mother's Day can be a nightmare. Phone lines are often jammed and flowershops sold

Flowers Direct offers flowers not always available in this country, particularly at this time of the year. and Blooms By Post specialises in

Ordering is made easier by the number of Mother's Day flowers it is not a nine-to-five job. There is no retirement age and the nagging feeling that it could be done better never goes away.

Nor does the sense of responsibili-

ty, although the role alters dramatically as toddlers progress to adults. However much heart-strings are tugged, mothers need to adapt. The rules of motherhood aim im-

possibly high. Mothers should be there for their children while allowing them to live their own lives, extend a love so great that they do not feel deprived but not so encompass-ing that they feel smothered.

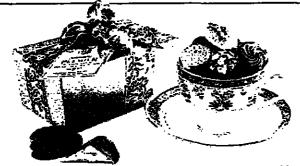
interfere but always be aware of what is offer the right advice when needed. Children should be neither shown up nor put down. Mothers should dress neither frumpishly nor garishly and not draw attention to themselves when picking children up from school.

A mother can relax and be herself once her children grow up, but she should never slack off in her role. The need for love, comfort and a shoulder to lean on continues. and becomes even more complicated when children become parents and mothers become grandmothers - another role and yet an-



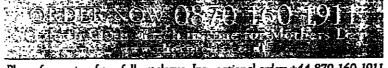
Mother's Day is not just about giving gifts, but letting her know how much she is appreciated

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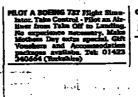


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Damages for breach of fiduciary duty

Nationwide Building Society v Various Solicitors (No 3) Before Mr Justice Blackburne [Judgment February 2]

Chancery Division

The correct approach to equitable compensation for breach of fiduciary duty, except where the fiduci-ary had acted dishonestly or in bad faith, was to assess what actual loss had resulted from the breach, having regard to the scope of the duty broken.

The court could have regard to any inference which, on the evidence could properly be drawn as to what would have happened if the fiduciary had performed his duty. Failing any such evidence. the beneficiary was entitled to be placed in the position he was in heore the breach occurred. That assumed that the beneficiary could show that but for the breach of duly, he would not have acted in

the way which had caused his loss Where, in order to establish a breach of fiduciary duty it was necessary to find that the fiduciary was consciously disloyal to the ben-eliciary, the fiduciary was disabled from asserting that the beneficiary contributed to the loss which he suffered flowing from the breach.

Mr Justice Blackburne so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division when considering 12 claims of the plaintiff. Na-tionwide Building Society, against 12 firms of solicitors retained by it. inter alia, to investigate and report on title, for breach of common law duties, and, in some cases, breach of fiduciary duty.

The plaintiff made mortgage advances to 12 borrowers each of which was secured by a first charge over the borrower's property. The borrowers defaulted and on sale of the properties the price realised fell far short of the sum required to discharge the loan.

In each case, the solicitor re-tained by the plaintiff to investigate and report on title also acted for the borrower in question. The cases exhibited unusual features

discharge the borrower's expenses of the transaction by varying the

purchase price The plaintiff sued the solicitors claiming that in breach of duty they had failed to disclose those features which if disclosed, would have led the plaintiff to withdraw its offer of advance.

The duties alleged included express duties under the terms of the retainers, implied duties including a duty to inform the plaintiff of any matters of which the solicitor was aware which a reasonably compe tent conveyancing solicitor would conclude might be relevant to the valuation of the property or some other aspect of the plaintiff's decision whether to lend and if so how much, and breach of fiduciary du-ties including the fiduciary's duty not to place himself in a position where his duties to his two principals conflicted.

The cases raised, inter alia, the question of the correct test for as-sessing equitable compensation where breach of fiduciary duty was established.

Mr Nicholas Patten, QC, Mr Timothy Higginson, Mr Ian Gan, Mr Torn Leech and Mr Michael las Davidson, QC. Mr Jonathan Simpkiss. Mr Francis Bacon, Mr William Flenley, Mr Tony Oakley and Mr Spike Charlwood for the

MR JUSTICE BLACKBURNE said that one of the issues which had arisen was whether, where breach of fiduciary was alleged. the "what if" approach to assessing nages at common law was in noint that is, whether, assuming causation in the sense of a causal connection between breach and loss had been shown, it was relevant to establish what course of ac-tion the plaintiff would have followed if the solicitor had carried out his duty.

His Lordship extensively reviewed the authorities, including London Loan and Savings Compa ny v Brickenden ((1934) 3 DLR 465) and Target Holdings Ltd v Red-ferns (a Firm) ([1996] AC 421). The latter case encouraged his Lordship to think that where, as in the instant cases, what was at issue was the consequence of a misrepre sentation or non-disclosure made by the liduciary which had caused the beneficiary to authorise the ap-plication of his moneys in a particu-

lar way, the only sensible approach to the cuestion of compensamisrepresentation or non-disclosure was to consider what would have happened if there had been no misrepresentation or the appropriate disclosure had been made

Where the fiduciary had induced the giving of authority by a statement which he knew to be untrue, it might be that the policy so clearly articulated in the speech of Lord Steyn in Smith New Court Se curities Ltd v Scrimgeour Vickers (Asset Management) Ltd (1997) AC 254) which applied in the case of common law deceit resulting in compensation assessed on the nest tutionary or "but for" basis should apply to the question of compensa-

n in equity. Short of that, his Lordship did not see why equity should close its eyes to what the beneficiary would have done if there had been no misrepresentation or the appropriate sclosure had been made.

The correct approach to equita-ble compensation for breach of fiductary duty, except where the fiduciary had aged dishonestly or in bad faith, was to assess what actual loss had resulted from the breach, having regard to the scope of the duty broken. The court could have regard to any inference which, on the evidence, could prop-erly be drawn as to what would have happened if the fiduciary had performed his duty.

Failing any such evidence, the beneficiary was entitled to be placed in the position he was in before the breach occurred. That as sumed that he could show that but for the breach of duty, the beneficiary would not have acted in the way which had caused his loss. The view that Brickenden did not prevent a fiduciary from proving what the client beneficiary would have done if there had been no breach of fiduciary duty now apseared to prevail in the courts of New Zealand and Canada.

Those courts in recent cases had nterpreted Brickenden to mean that, once breach of fiduciary dury was established through the fail-ure of the fiduciary to disclose material facts to the beneficiary, it was not open to the court to spec on the course the beneficiary would have taken had the duty been discharged.

it was nevertheless open to the fiduciary, on whom the onus lay, to show if he could, what the beneficiary would have done if there had been no breach of fiduciary duty and whether, therefore, the benefi-ciary had suffered any and if so what loss which should be compen-

As to the issue of lender fault in equity, his Lordship said that in English law contributory negli-gence had never been a delence to an intentional tort. In such cases the Law Reform: Contributory Negligence Act 1945 had no applica-

By parity of reasoning, his Lordship could see no good reason why equity should adopt a less rigorous approach. His Lordship therefore took the view that where, in order to establish a breach of fiduciary duty it was necessary to find that the fiduciary was consciously disloyal to the beneficiary, the fiduciary was disabled from asserting that the beneficiary contributed to the loss which he suffered flowing from the breach. That did not mean that the con-duct of the person to whom the fidu-

ciary duty was owed was irrele structions to solicitors. vant. There came a point, following the breach of the fiduciary duty, where the loss was too re-

mote for the breach to be said to be a loss flowing from it or where the claimant's own conduct came into play as a factor determining the loss for which he could recover.

His Lordship also commented on the benefit of the managed list procedure adopted in the trial of the 12 actions, which were a repretive cross-section of more than 400 claims mounted by the

His Lordship said that by the procedure he was enabled to ob-tain a more balanced view of the way the plaintiff operated than if he had tried a single trial only.

In particular, his Lordship was better able to assess, partly by vir-tue of the plaintiff's extensive discovery in the action, what the plain tiffs response should have been to the information supplied to it by the applicant borrowers (relevant to contributory negligence) and how it would have reacted to the disclosures which it said the defendant solicitors should have made to it (relevant to causation). His Lordship found levels of con-

tributory negligence by the plain-tiff in many cases which reduced the damages to which it was entitled by amounts ranging between Ferco. 20 per cent and 90 per cent of the sums claimed.

Factors his Lordship took into account in making those findings in-cluded failing to heed warnings issued by the industry regulator con-cerning the need to be prudent about lending, placing too much emphasis on the value of the underlying security and too little on the borrower's convenant, lending at excessively high loan to value per-centages and failing to spell out its reporting needs in its printed in-

Solicitors: Burges Salmon, Bris-tol: Barlow Lyde & Gilbert.

Enforcing award in foreign arbitration

Minmetals Germany GmbH v Ferco Steel Ltd

Before Mr Justice Colman [Judgment January 20]

By agreeing the place of a foreign arbitration, a party not only agreed to submit all contractual lisputes to arbitration but also agreed that the conduct of the arbitration should be subject to the supervisory jurisdiction of the courts of that place.

Mr Justice Colman so held in the Queen's Bench Division when Cresswell made on January 12. 1998, under section 101 of the Arbi-tration Act 1996, giving leave to Minmetals Germany GmbH to enforce against Ferco Steel Ltd an award dated September 29, 1995 in an initial arbitration and an award dated March 20, 1997 in the resumed arbitration, conducted under the auspices of the China International Fornomic Trade Arbitration Commission, of Beijing.

Mr Duncan Mathews for Minmetals; Mr Michael Swainston for

MR JUSTICE COLMAN said it was common ground that the awards were enfoceable in England under the Arbitration Act 1975 which gave effect to the New York Convention on the Recognition of Foreign Arbitral Awards 1958: see Fifth Report of the International Law Committee 1961 (Cmnd 1515). Nor was it disputed by Ferco that unless it could persuade the Beijing court to order a retrial and, as a result, the Beijing court ordered revocation, the awards were

as they stood, final and enforceable

under Chinese law.

Section 102(1) and (2) of the Arbitration Act 1996 expressly provided that such awards must be enforced unless the party against whom enforcement was sought proved that the case fell within one of the excep-

With regard to the court's power under section (03G) to decline to enforce or recognise an award on the grounds of inarbitrability of the subject matter or of enforcement being contrary to public policy, whereas it was always open to the court to take an illegality point of its own volition, if a respondent to enforcement wished to rely on matters within subsection (3), the burof making good the objection to enforcement clearly rested on

that party. Article 53 of the arbitration commission rules was clearly and ex-pressly applicable to the conduct of arbitrators in making their award. His Lordship was in no doubt that in making the first award they had not acted in accordance with international practices and the principles of fairness and reasonable

However, the position following the Beijing court's order for a re-sumed hearing was that the evi-dence relied on by the arbitrators was open to challenge by means of a request for sight of the award and of the evidence on which it was

Since no such challenge was ad-vanced, Ferco had waived its right to object to the continuing omission of the arbitrators to disclose the award under article 45 of the

The public policy issue arose in relation to the New York Conven-tion award made pursuant to a Chi-

nese agreed arbitral authority. In international commerce, a party who contracted into an agreement to arbitrate in a foreign jurisdic-tion was bound not only by the local arbitration procedure but also by the supervisory jurisdiction of the courts of the seat of the arbitra-

If the award was defective or the arbitration was defectively conducted the party who complained of the defect must in the first instance pursue such remedies as existed under that supervisory jurisdiction.

Adherence to that part of the arbitration agreement must be a cardinal policy consideration by an English court considering enforcement of a foreign award.

In a case where a party against whom enforcement was sought al-leged that a New York Convention ward should not be enforced on the ground that such enforcement would lead to substantial injustice and therefore be contrary to English public policy the following must normally be included among the relevant considerations: The nature of the procedural in-

2 Whether that party had invoked the supervisory jurisdiction of the seat of the arbitration. 3 Whether a remedy was available

under that jurisdiction. 4 Whether the courts of that jurisdiction had conclusively determined the enforcee's complaint in favour of upholding the award. 5 If that party had failed to invoke that remedial jurisdiction, what reason had he and, in particular, vhether he was acting unreasonably in failing to do so.

Solicitors: Sinclair Roche & Temperley: Ince & Co.

European Patent Convention forum shopping

Seoracor Inc v Hoechst Marion Roussel Ltd and Others Before Mr Justice Laddie

|Judgment January 29| The court would not exercise its discretion so as to make an order which prevented a party from litigaring in a court where, under the European Patent Convention, he was entitled to sue. Facts which gave rise only to an inference that a defendant had knowingly facilitated or assisted another person to infringe were insufficient to consti-

tute him a joint tortfeasor. Mr Justice Laddie so held in the Chancery Division, on the hearing of an application by the first to sixth defendants: Hoechst Marion Roussel Ltd. Marion Merrell Ltd. Hoechst AG, Hoechst Marion Roussel AG, Hoechst Marion Roussel Deutschland GmbH and Hoechst Marion Roussel Inc., an American subsidiary of the third defendant, to strike out proceedings against them commenced by the plaintiff, Sepracor Inc. in England on September 28, 1998, seeking a declaration that European Patent (UK) 0,701,433 and the equivalent designations of it in each of 12 other countries, including Denmark and France, but not Belower were valid. The severth defendant. Georgetown University, was co-proprietor with Sepra-

our of that patent. Mr Richard Meade for Sepraovr. Mr Andrew Waugh, QC, for the first to sixth defendants.

MR JUSTICE LADDIE said that the UK patent in suit con-cerned an antihistamine drug, terfendine carboxylate, various theerba companies, in various countries, marketed a rival product under the trade marks Telfast

or Alkera. On May 4, 1998 the fifth delendant and a Belgian company in the Heechst group had commenced proceedings in Belgium against Sepracor There had been unchallenged evidence that a patent acnon there would take some five years to come to trial and any appeal would take another five.

Among practitioners, such forum shopping was called "deploying the Belgian torpedo".

No pleadings responsive to Se-pracor's writ and statement of claim having been served, on De-cember 4, the first defendant petitioned the High court to revoke Sepracor's UK patent and launched the present notice of motion to strike out its writ and statement of claim on the ground, inter alia, that it was not open to Sepracor to sue here in respect of infringements in other countries when the validity of the patents themselves were or would be in issue.

Anyone uncontaminated by familiarity with the European Patent Convention and having to litigate in a national court. Mi Germany, the source of all the Hoechst drugs to be sold in Europe, was the obvious forum for resolving validity and infringement.

But that was the outree both sides wished to avoid: Hoechst wanting the German and French issues decided in Belgium. Sepracor in England. Further, in relation to all countries except England, Se-pracor wanted to restrain local infringement without suing the local companies primarily responsible alleged infringements

In the light of Fort Dodge Ltd v Akzo Nobel NV (1998) FSR 222) Sepracor had conceded, without formally agreeing, that the pleaded claims in relation to the foreign designations were not justiciable here so all the relevant parts of the pleadings and particulars of in-fringement would be struck out.

Mr Waugh had also cited Saccharin Corporation v Wild ([1903] Ch 410) as justifying a strike-out of those parts under Order 15, rule 5(1) or Order 18, rule 19 of the Rules of the Supreme Court as likely to prejudice embarrass or delay the trial of the purely domestic issues His Lordship did not accept that

authority as justifying that course. Courts here frequently had to de-The choice was between one action here, with evidence relating to 12 countries' laws, nearly identical.

since each country had tried to implement the provisions of the European Patent Comvention, or 13 separate actions in 13 countries, with

His Lordship had no doubt that one action would be quicker, cheaper and more convenient. It was well established that considerations of forum conveniens were not he could think of no circumstances that would justify him in preventing a party from litigating in a court in which the convention entitled him to sue.

The judgment of Lord Justice Hobhouse in Credit Lyonnais Bank Nederland NV v Export Credit Guarantee Department the ambit of the law concerning ioint tortfeasors:

There is no tort of knowing assistance ... the liability in tort for the act of another depends ... upon participation in. or authorisation of, that act... (at p42a).

"Acts which knowingly facilitate the commission of a crime amount to ... aiding and abetting but they do not amount to a tort or make the aider liable as a joint tortleasor (at

"Mere ... knowing assistance does not suffice ... the secondary party ... must have conspired with the primary party or procured or induced his commission of the tort .. or have joined in the common design pursuant to which the tort was committed ..." (at p 46b).

Applying that guidance and that of Lord Justice Glidewell in Unilerer plc v Chefaro Proprietaries Ltd (1994) FSR 135, 138) to the effect that there must be some act in fur-therance of the common design and/or that the secondary party had procured or assisted the prima-

ry party to infringe. His Lordship did not accept that an arguable case of joint tortiea-sance had been demonstrated against the third to sixth defendants, who had to be removed from the action.

Solicitors: Handards: Bird & Bird.

Revised Interest Rates

Amended Investment and Savings Rates. Effective from 1st March 1999.

Capital Trust Accounts

	Previou	IS-		Amended	Investm	ent	and Savings	rates
Minimum	AÉR"	AER*	Gross*	Gross*			Minimum	AER*
investment	Excluding	Induding	Including	Excluding	Net"	i i	investment,	Excluding
	Bonuses	Maximum	Bonus	Bonus		li		Bonuses
_		Bonus			-	1		
	Prem	nium Saver	(Annually)	<u> </u>				Pre
+000,000+	5.25%	6.25%	6.25%*	5.25%	4.20%	l	£100,000+	4.75%
£50,000	5.00%	6.00%	6.00%*	5.00%	4.00%	1 1	£50,000	4.50%
£20,000	4.75%	5.75%	5.75%*	4.75%	3.80%	1 1	£20,000	4.00%
	Press	nium Saver	(Monthly)					Pre
£100,000+	5.22%	6.22%	6.10%*	5.10%	4.08%		£100,000+	4.75%
£50,000	4.96%	5.96%	5.85%	4.85%	3.88%		£50,000	4.49%
£20,000	4.75%	5.75%	5.65%*	4.65%	3.72%	1	£20,000	3.97%
	Hig	her Saver (Annually)			il		Hi Hi
£10,000+	4.75%	5.25%'#	5.25%***	4.75%	3.80%		£10,000+	4.25%
£5,000	4.50%	5.00%***	5.00%111	4.50%	3.60%	1	£5,000 ·	3.75%
£1,000	4.25%	4.75%"'	4.75%***	4.25%	3.40%	1	£1,000	3.50%
	Hig	her Saver (Monthly)			. !		Hi
£10,000+	4.75%	5.25%'"	5.15%'"	4.65%	3.72%	ı	£10,000+	4.23%
£5,000	4.49%	4.99%***	4.90%"	4.40%	3.52%	1	£5,000	3.71%
£1,000	4.23%	4.73%111	4.65%'''	4.15%	3.32%	1 1	£1,000	3.45%
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£20+	3.75%	6.75%	6.75%~	· 3.75%	3.00%	1	£20+	3.25%
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£	10,00	<u> </u>		2.50%	, 1		2.00%
£5,000				2.00%	_	1.60%	
£1,000				1.75%		1.40%	
	£50	00	_	1.50%		1.20%	
	£10)O**		1.25%		1.00%	
			FirstSav	er			
	£1+			6.75%		5	5.40%
TESSA		Minim	ium Balance	AER*			Gross*
Platinum TESSA (2nd Issue)			£3,000	6.50%		6.509	% tax free
Flexi-TESSA			£250	6.00%		6.009	6 tax free
Variable Rate Maturity TESSA			£3,001	6.50%			6 tax free
Monthly Income					$\neg \tau$		

Investment	Excluding	Induding	Induding	Excluding	Net"
	Bonuses	Maximum	Bonus	Bonus	
		Bonus			
	Prem	ium Saver	(Annually)		
£100,000+	4.75%	5.75%	5 <u>.75%</u>	4.75%	3.80%
£50,000	4.50%	5.50%	5.50%*	4.50%	3.60%
£20,000	4.00%	5.00%	5.00%*	4.00%	3.20%
	Pren	ium Saver	(Monthly)		
£100,000+	4.75%	5.75%	5.65%*	4.65%	3.72%
£50,000	4.49%	5.49%	5.40%*	4.40%	3,52%
£20,000	3.97%	4.97%	4.90%*	3.90%	3.12%
	Hig	her Saver (/	Annually)		
£10,000+	4.25%	4.75%	4.75%"	4.25%	3.40%
£5,000 ·	3.75%	4.25%	4.25%"	3.75%	3.00%
£1,000	3.50%	4.00%	4.00%"	3.50%	2.80%
_	Hig	ner Saver (Monthly)		
£10,000+	4.23%	4.73%	4.65%'''	4.15%	3.32%
£5,000	3.71%	4.21%	4.15%'''	3.65%	2,92%
£1,000	3.45%	3.95%	3.90%'"	3.40%	2.72%
	Regul	ar Saver (A	nniversary		
£20+	3.25%	6.25%	6.25%**	3.25%	2.60%

Minimum AER* AER* Gross* Gross*

Minimum		Gross*/AER*	Net"
Flexible Saving	s and Flexible Sa	vings CashCa	rd Account***
£100,0	000+	3.75%	3.00%
£20,0	000	3.00%	2.40%
£10,0	000	2.50%	2.00%
£5,0	000	2.00%	1.60%
£1,0	000	1.75%	1.40%
E	500	1.50%	1.20%
£	100**	1.25%	1.00%
	FirstSave	3"	
£1-	F	6.75%	5.40%
TESSA	Minimum Balance	AER*	Gross*
atinum TESSA nd Issue)	£3,000	6.50%	6.50% tax free
exi-TESSA	£250	6.00%	6.00% tax free*
riable Rate aturity TESSA			6.50% tax free*
onthly Income aturity TESSA	£5,000	6.43%	6.25% tax free

Minimum 8	alance	Gross*/AER*	Net"	
Flexible Savings	and Flexible Sa	vings CashCar	d Account***	
£100,00)O+	3.25%	2.60%	
£20,00	00	2.50%	2.00%	
£10,00	00	2.00%	1.60%	
£5,00	00	1.50%	1,20%	
£1,00	0	1.25%	1.00% 0.80%	
£50	00	1.00%		
£10	00**	0.75%	0.60%	
	FirstSave	er		
£1+		6.25%	5.00%	
TESSA	Minimum Balance	AER*	Gross*	
Platinum TESSA (2nd Issue)	ള,000	6.00%	6.00% tax free*	
Flexi-TESSA	exi-TESSA £250		5.50% tax free	
Variable Rate Maturity TESSA	£3,001	6.00%	6.00% tax free	
Monthly Income Maturity TESSA	rithly income		5.75% tax free*	

New

New

5.75% tax free

6.10% tax free

Prev	rious		Capital Trust
	Capital Trust 30	(Annually)	1
Minimum Ba	alance	Gross*/AER*	Net'
£100,00	O+	6.25%	5.00%
£50,00		6.00%	4.80%
£20,00		5.75%	4.60%
£10,00		5.25%	4.20%
£5,00	0	5.00%	4.00%
£1,00		4.75%	3.80%
	Capital Trust 3	(Monthly)	
Minimum Balance	AER*	Gross*	Net'
£100.000+	6.22%	6.05%	4.84%
£50,000	5.96%	5.80%	4.64%
£20,000	5.75%	5.60%	4.48%
£10,000	5.22%	5.10%	4.08%
£5,000	4.96%	4.85%	3.88%
£1,000	4.75%	4.65%	3.72%
	Capital Trust		
Minimum Ba		Gross*/AER*	Net¹
£100.00	0+	6.00%	4.80%
£50,00	0	5.75%	4.60%
£20,00	0	5.50%	4,40%
£10,00	0	5.00%	4,00%
£5.00	0	4.75%	3,80%
£1,00	0	4.50%	3.60%
	Capital Trust	(Monthly)	
Minimum Balance	AER*	Gross*	Net'
£100,000+	5.96%	5.80%	4.64%
£50,000	5.75%	5.60%	4,48%
£20,000	5.48%	5.35%_	4,28%
£10,000	4.96%	4.85%	3.88%
£5,000	4.75%	4.65%	3.72%
£1,000	4.49%	4.40%	3,52%

	Capital (1051.50	(Annually)	
Minimum B	alance	Gross*/AER*	Net
£100,00	5.75%	4.60%	
£50,00	00	5.50%	4,40%
£20,000		5.00%	4.00%
£10,000 £5,000		4.75%	3.80%
		4.25%	3.40%
£1,00	00	4.00%	3.20%
	Capital Trust 30	(Monthly)	
Minimum Balance	AER*	Gross*	Net'
£100,000+	5.75%	5.60%	4.48%
£50,000	5.48%	5.35%	4.28%
£20,000	4,96%	4.85%	3.88%
£10,000	4.75%	4.65%	3.72%
£5,000	4.23%	4.15%	3.32%
£1,000	3.97%	3.90%	3.12%
	Capital Trust (/	Annually)	
Minimum B	alance	Gross*/AER*	Net'
£100,000+		5.50%	4.40%
£50,000 £20,000		5.25%	4.20%
		4.75%	3.80%
£10,000		4.50%	3.60%
£5,000		4.00%	3.20%
£1,00		3.75%	3.00%
	Capital Trust (I	Vionthly)	
Minimum Balance	AER*	Gross*	Net'
£100,000+	5.48%	5.35%	4.28%
£50,000	5.22%	5.10%	4.08%
£20,000	4.75%	4.65%	3.72%
£10,000	4.49%	4.40%	3.52%
£5,000	3.97%	3.90%	3.12%
£1,000	3.71%	3.65%	2.92%

Previ	ious	For ac	counts no longer	open to new invest	ors	Ne
Minimum Balance	AER*	Gross*	Net'	Minimum Balance	AER*	Gross*
Hig	h Interest Acco	unt (Annually)		High	Interest Accou	
£100,000+	4.00%	4.00%	3.20%	£100,000+	3.50%	3.50%
£20,000	3.25%	3.25%	2.60%	£20,000	2.75%	2.75%
£10,000	2.75%	2.75%	2.20%	£10,000	2.25%	2.25%
£5,000	2.25%	2.25%	1.80%	£5,000	1.75%	1.75%
	Monthly incom	e Account			Vionthly Income	
£100,000+	3.97%	3.90%	3.12%	£100,000+	3.45%	3.40%
£20,000	3.25%	3.20%	2.56%	£20,000	2.73%	2.70%
£10,000	2.73%	2.70%	2.16%	£10,000	2.22%	2.20%
£5,000	2.22%	2.20%	1.76%	£5,000	1.71%	1.70%
£2,500	1.97%	1.95%	1.56%	£2,500	1.46%	1.45%
	Brighter Saver	Account			Brighter Saver	Acces 194
£1+	6,54%	6.75%	5.31%	£1+	6.25%	6.16%
TESSA		AER*	Gross*	TESSA		AER*
Monthly TESSA		6.25%	6.25% tax free	Monthly TESSA		
						5.75%
Platinum TESSA (1st Issue)		6.50%	6.50% tax free	Platinum TESSA (1st b	sue)	6.10%
		Baissasin	Pulletian Contact City		_	

Britannia Building Society Britannia House Leek Staffordshire 5713 SRG
"Without UK income 1.3x deducted. Thet rate assuming rate of income tax at 20% (if applicable). "Includes a 1% gross annual bonus for "Without us income tax prouted. Their rate examining rate in master last as one to appreciate, increase a re-gross annual points for no withdrawals about 50 0.5% gross is possible for 3 or more withdrawals during a bonus year or where the balance has fallen below £20,000 at any time throughout the year. "Includes a 0.5% gross annual bonus for no withdrawals during a bonus year, and balance must be £1,000 or more throughout the year. "Includes a 3% gross annual bonus for no withdrawals during a bonus year, and balance must be £1,000 or more throughout the year. "Includes a 3% gross annual forms for 12 months payment of the agreed amount and no withdrawals. "Customers whose accounts were opened before 31st March, 1999 and who are aged under 23 and recorded as such, previously received 1.50% gross/AER from £100 to £999, the new rate will be 1.00% gross/AER.

withdrawas. "Customers wrose accounts were opened before 3 Sts March, 1998 and who are aged under 23 and recorded as such, previously received 1.50% gross/AER from £100 to £999, the new rate will be 1.00% gross/AER from £100 to £999. "AER stands for Annual Equivalent Rate and flustrates what the interest rate would be if interest was paid and added each year, "ings Accounts. Find Deposit and AER rates on Half Yearly and Monthly Instant Access accounts (all of which are closed to new accounts) pay the same rates as Heartile Senings Accounts. Find of UK income Tax. AER and net rates are sustrative only and have been rounded to two decimal places, interest will be paid net of the applicable rate of income tax (which may be reclaimed by non-tax payers) or gross, subject to the required registration. Rates may vary but are correct at time of going to press. FOR INFORMATION. Interest rates on some other accounts have also changed from the same date. Details of interest rates paid on other accounts are available from any Britannia branch. You may be unsure as to whether your existing account is the best one for you, if so, please call into your local branch where we will be happy to explain the various schemes in detail.

Distribution to departing shareholders lawful

MacPherson and Another v European Strategic Bureau

Before Mr Justice Ferris

(Judgment January 22) there was no untawful distribution contrary to section 203() of the Companies Act 1985 where the shareholders of a quasi-partnership, in which the participants reprofits made by the business, entered into an agreement under which departing shareholders were paid a percentage of profits carned from contracts on they had worked prior to their departure in propartion to their

tormer stake in the company. Mr Justice Ferris so held in a reserved judgment in favour of each of the plaintiffs. Mr Jain Francis Duncan MacPherson and Miss Susan Forevell, in the sum of £35,853.94 home money due to them from the defendants. European Strategic Bureau Ltd. under the revised shareholders' agreement dated February 28, 1991.

Mr Pushpinder Saini for the phintiffs: Mr Robert Wright, QC. for the detendants

MR JUSTICE LERRIS said that in 1980 the plaintiffs and a Mr Richard Lyman set up the defendant company to provide investment hanking services to European Calindare companies.

As most of ESB's service contracts only provided for the compaforts on hehalf of the client being successful, the company's activitie were initially largely financed through loans made by Mr

MacPherson. When the plaintiffs decided to leave ESB in Tebruary 1991, a revised shareholders' agreement dated February 28, 1991 provided for less received after that date to be applied in the following order: in payment of accrued habilities; in repayment of the loans made by Mr MacPherson: in repayment of loans made by Mr I yman

Any surplus was to be distributed between the two plaintiffs and Mr Lyman in the proportions 25:25:50 as payment for consultancy services provided by them to ESB. Under this provision each of the plaintiffs claimed £35,853.94. His Lordship rejected Mr Wright's submission that the re-

vised shareholders' agreement constituted an unlawful distribution of company property contrary to section 2nd of the Companies Act 1985. The agreement provided for the payment of the company's overheads, and the halance was more naturally to be recarded as deferred remuneration for those who had previously worked without pay in the expectation of receiving

a share of the company's luture

profits than as a gratuitous pay-

ment of ESB's money to its share

His Lordship rejected an alternarive submission that the plaintiffs, and Mr Lyman, had failed to declare their interests prior to enter-ing into the revised shareholders reement contrary to section 317

of the 1985 Act.
There was unanimous share holder approval of the agreement sure could have increased the other shareholders' relevant knowl-

In any event a breach of section

317 would only have made the

hareholders' agreement voidable Reliance on such a contravention could only benefit ESB if it had had the opportunity to rescind the agreement and had in fact done so. Mr MacPherson has resigned his directorship, and both plainulfs have transferred their shares to Mr Lyman pursuant to the terms of the agreement, which had been performed in a number of respects. It was now impossible for ESB to rescind.

Solicitors: Thomson Snell & Passmore. Tunbridge Wells: Bristows Cooke & Carpmael.

Correction

In Presson Borough Council v Mc-Grath (The Times February 18) the solicitors for Preston were Davies Wallis Foyster, Liverpool.

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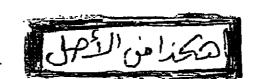
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1260 Rts Grown 1260	TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.	101 99 Goldsheldt 144 77 iS Benedix 159.00 Ed. Laborature; 357 50 Martinet 31 80 Ordest Melecutia 67 50 Prylates Tiesta. 73 50 Prylates Tiesta. 73 70 Prylates Ed. 25.70 Profess Ed. 25.70 Profess Ed.	25
10.10 10.1	Section Company Price State Price Price State	CITY OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PR	318.20 Georgia II 6175+ 42: 0.3 27.00 MW Group 1007+ 45: 24: 8.3 27.00 MW Group 1007+ 47: 16: 27: 27.00 MW Group 1007+ 47: 16: 27: 27: 27: 27: 27: 27: 27: 27: 27: 27
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10.210 10.22 10.	## HEALTHCARE ### HEALTHCARE	1.18 Bollon Ep 77.30 Borne End 322.00 Bodfeed 325.00 Bodfeed 325.00 Bodfeed 325.31 Bodfeed 325.30 Carbon let 3	27 45 38.3 285+4 54 12.4 285+4 54 12.4 285+4 54 12.4 285-4 54 12.4 285-4 54 12.4 285-2
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197 198 Martery 198	25.1 Abbut 60 + 5 6.2 73 42.20 Amenda 125 - 3.7 70 85.90 Affine fine 121 + 11 122 87 88.90 Affine fine 121 + 11 122 88.90 Affine fine 121 + 12 125 88.90 Affine fine 121 + 12 125 88.90 Affine fine 121 + 12 125 88.90 Affine fine 122 - 123 88.90 Af	2.39 Lands lamp 4.49.20 Land Size 19.30 Land Land 19.30 Land Land 19.30 Land	1.50
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THE COMMERCES

Interims: Close Brothers Group, Domestic & General, Hays, Mc-Bride, Redrow, Scottish Inv Trust (first quarter). Finals: Aegis, Aggreko, Bisichi Mining, Biliton. Burmah Castrol, Dixon Motors, Finelist Group, Grafton Group, Hodder Headline, London & Associated Properties, Marshalls, Ocean Group, Perkins Foods, Sherwood International, Sun Life & Provincial Holdings. Economic statistics: Chartered Institute of Purchasing & Supply February manufacturing sector survey. January net new consumer credit, February provisional MO, January final M4, M4 lending.

TOMORROW

Interims: Britt Alicroft, Druid Group, News Communications & Media. Finals: Arriva, BPP Holdings, CRH, Epwin Group, Fairview Holdings, Gallaher, Hickson International, Jardine Lloyd Thompson Group, Miltennium & Copthame, Norwich Union, PSD Group, Rentokil Initial, RJB Mining, Wates City of London Properties. Economic statistics: Halifax February house price survey, and-February official reserves, Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee meeting.

WEDNESDAY

Interims: S Lyles, Photobition, FL nals: William Baird, Britannic, Cakebread Robey, Cookson Group, Dawson International, Enterprise Oil, GKN, Jacobs Holdings, Parity, Psion, Serco Group, Thistle Hotels, Wilson Bowden. Economic statistics: Chartered institute of Purchasing & Supply February service sector survey, Confederation of British Industry February quarterly distributive trades survey, Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee rate decision.

THURSDAY

interiors: none scheduled. Fimais: Elementis, Furlang Homes Group, Oxford Glycosciences, PowerGen, Rolls-Royce, Sanderson Bramail Motor, Total Office Group, Vickers, Williams, Xenova. Economic statistics; three months to January housing starts, three months to December new construction orders, Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders Februany new car registrations.

FRIDAY

leterius: Thorntons, Finals: Greggs, Limelight Group. Economic distion: fourth-quarger construc-



Rentokil faces its earnings test

RENTOKIL INITIAL There may be some questions posed when the "Royal Rateatcher" publishes final results tomorrow amid signs that its earnings growth is slowing.

A few years ago, Sir Clive Thompson, chief executive, put himself on the rack by saying that earnings growth of 20 per cent a year was achievable. He fell just short of the target in the first half and is expected to report only a 17 per cent rise in earnings, to 12 lp per share, this time.

Pre-tax profits are expected to be between £485 million and £505 million, against £417 million last time. Shareholders should be rewarded with a final payout of 3.6p to 3.7p, up from last year's 3.06p. Suspicions that sales growth has slowed because of Rentokil's diverse geographic exposure are likely to be proved right. This may put pressure on the group to make another big acquisition.

Rentokil almost tripled in size when it paid £2.1 billion for BET in 1996. Although Sir Clive has insisted he sees no need for another big purchase in the next two years or so, industry watchers say that the company could look at deals of about £500 million. Compass Group, Securicor and International Service Systems

are tipped as potential targets. Bolt-on acquisitions seem likelier. Rentokil bought eight hygiene and security companies for £37 million in January, adding £49 million of turnover.

The business split is 30 per cent hygiene, 25 per cent transport, 14 per cent security, 11 per cent property, il per cent personnel and 6 per cent pest control. Paul Morland, of BT Alex

Brown, expects profits of £491 million, and looks for a 2 per cent increase in sales, to £2.93 billion.

NORWICH UNION: Last week's admission by Legal & General that it was sacrificing margins for market share sent a shudder through life assurers. However, there should be few such fears with Norwich Union, which is the cheapest in the sector, according to BT Alex Brown. the broker. It expects pre-tax profits of £700 million, against £647 million last time. Earnings per share should be up 7 per cent, from 22.lp to 23.7p. The dividend should be up 10 per cent, at 12.8p. Life profits will be up a tenth.



Sir Clive Thompson may have to fend off some pesky questions about Rentokil's earnings growth

with the domestic market gaining from a high level of maturities of with-profit policies and reasonable investment returns.

POWERGEN: Third-quarter results from PowerGen on Thursday will be the first indication of the sort of cost savings obtain-able from its £1.9 billion acquisition of East Midlands Electricity.

The group decided last year to change its year end from March to December, and a substantial deficit appears to be on the cards because of big exceptional items. A pre-tax loss of £215 million to £315 million is forecast, against a £376 million profit for the corres-

million to £600 million relating to renegotiation of contracts to take Liverpool Bay gas. Information will be sought on

the sale of 4,000 megawatts of coal-fired generating assets that the group decided to shed to gain regulatory approval to buy East Midlands. The group had origi-nally hoped to get £800 million to El billion for the two plants. Fiddler's Ferry and Ferrybridge, but recent speculation suggests that it will receive about £1.5 billion.

BURMAH CASTROL: Final results today are expected to show pre-tax profits of £235 million to £238 million, down from £279.7 ponding period. This will be struck after exceptionals of ESOO million last time, after hits from-currency factors and deteriorating markets in Asia and North America in the second half. The full-year dividend should rise from 40%p to 42%p.

The core businesses will have performed creditably, despite some pressure on end markets, with both the chemicals and the lubricants businesses holding up well. The key to events will be any comments on the outlook for main markets in the Far East. Credit Lyonnais Securities ex-

pects profits of £238.1 million and a dividend of 42p.

AN EXCLUSIVE OFFER

COOKSON: The group has just completed a review of operations. and its proposals for restructuring and strategy are expected to be announced with final results

on Wednesday. The materials technology company has said that "marginally better than ex-pected" trading in the fourth quarter has led it to expect pretax profits, before exceptional items and goodwill amortisation, of about £150 million for the year to December 31. That figure was towards the top of the City's range of £138 million to £150 million and compares with £91 mil-

lion the previous year. Earnings per share are expected to be 14.4p to 15.7p. against earnings before exceptional

items of 18p previously.

Despite Cookson's efforts to emphasise an upturn in fourthquarter trading, analysts do not expect 1998 to have been a fine year because of shutdowns and destocking in the steel industry.

SG Securities, which expects pre-tax profits of £137.5 million and a 9.5p dividend, says that recent action to cut costs suggests that trading has been difficult.

VICKERS: The group is expected to reveal strategic plans for its defence unit with final results on Thursday. It has forecast pre-tax profits, before exceptionals, of about £55.6 million, against £76.5 million last time. The payout is forecast to stay at 7.2p.

ROLLS-ROYCE: Healthy fullyear figures from the aero-engine group are forecast for Thursday. Pre-tax profits before exceptionals are expected to be between E318 million and E325 million, against £276 million a year ago. A final dividend of 6.5p to 6.6p

and earnings per share of 16.3p to 17p are expected.

It will be interesting to see whether the group is on track to meet its target of double-digit earnings growth and whether growth comes from top-line figures or is underpinned by a fall in research costs. At the interim stage, Rolls-Royce partially attributed its 16 per cent rise in profits to a reduction in expenditure.

Development in high-margin after-market sales compared with lower-margin original equipment sales will be watched.

GKN: Full-year pre-tax profits before exceptionals on Wednesday are expected to be £440 million to £455 million, against £406 million a year earlier. The payout should grow from 14.8p to 16.3p.

Chances to

move rates

Both the Bank of England and the European Central Bank have the opportunity to move interest rates this week. Analysts are divided on whether the Monetary Policy Committee will make yet another cut on Wednesday, but there is a clear consensus that the ECB will not take any action a day later. The recent fall in the euro's value, coupled with interference from Oskar Lafontaine, Germany's Finance Minister, has apparently made ECB council members even more determined to keep to 3 per cent "for the foreseeable future".

However, euroland economic data published next week are likely to keep market hopes of a rate cut later in the spring alive. Figures released tomorrow are expected to show the annual rate of eurozone inflation declining from 0.8 per cent to 0.7 per cent in January, although still comfortably within the ECB's 0 to 2 per cent target. Fourth-quarter GDP figures, which are published on Thursday, are likely to confirm that quarterly growth has stalled, although the annual rate of expansion will remain a respectable 2.1 per cent. The money supply data, published today, should also help to reassure the ECB that future inflation pressures remain subdued, with the annual rate of M3 falling from 4.5 to 4.1 per cent in January.

The biggest test for international markets is likely to be on Friday with the publication of the February employment figures. Analysts are forecasting strong growth in non-farm payrolls which will heighten fears that the Federal Reserve is more likely to raise than cut rates in the next few months.

Back home, a normally quiet data week will be enlivened by the publication tomorrow of the average earnings data after an absence of four months. The earnings series was suspended in November after data revisions turned the received wisdom about the path of earnings growth during 1998 on its head, prompting criticism of the Bank of England's analysis. Analysts expect the fig-ures to show that wage growth has eased since the data were suspended.

On Wednesday the Confederation of British Industry distributive trades survey will provide the first glimpse of whether the January bounce-back in sales has been sustained.

Alasdair Murray

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: Buy Scottish & Southern, Calluna, Carlton, Boxmore, Enterprise, Allied London, Axon. The Mail on Sunday: Buy First Choice, Aggreko, Gresham Computers, Scotswood Industries. The Sunday Telegraph: Buy Southnews, Scoot.com, Beale, Quarto Publishing, Amec, NSB Retail Systems. The Express on Sunday: Buy Euro Sales Finance, HC Slingsby, Misys.

THE SE TIMES

Increase in business failures

By SAEED SHAH

BUSINESS failure rates continued to rise in Britain last year, in contrast to the rest of Europe, showing that the country remains out of step with the Continent's business cycle.

Britain's distinct business cycie will be one of the key economic barriers to joining the cum, where a single interest rate assumes a broadly syn-chronised cycle. While European business failures fell on average by 7.8 per cent in 1998.

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IN SAVER ACCURAT

the number of businesses going to the wall in Britain increased last year by 6.2 per cent, according to a survey published today by Dun & Bradstreet, the business information group.

Britain was the only leading Western European economy to register a significant in-crease in business failures. with the annual tally increasing by more than 2,000 to a rate of about 775 businesses going bust each week. In Germany, business fail-

ures also rose during 1998 but per cent of business now ex-

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MONTHLY AMERICAL BROSS ARR & GROSS ARRY

only by about 400 or 1.6 per cent. France saw business failures down 14.3 per cent over 1997, while Italy fell by 18.5 per cent, Sweden was down 20 per cent and Austria enjoyed a 38 per cent fall in failure rates.

A separate Dun & Brad-street survey, also published today, conducted among 10,000 British and continental businessmen, for the first quarter of 1999, showed that business confidence has fallen to its lowest level for five years. Some 62

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ing the first quarter of 1999. down 3.5 percentage points

from the previous quarter. Philip Mellor, senior business analyst at Dun & Bradstreet, said that Britain's business cycle was 12 to 18 months ahead of Europe. He said that one reason for Britain's differ-ent business cycle was the fact that the UK traded to a far greater extent beyond Europe. and so was much more vulnerable to economic conditions elsewhere in the world.

Two head **Keyline** from CRH

By CARL MORTISHED

TRAVIS PERKINS and Wolseley are in the lead to buy Key-line, the £200 million builder's

Corporate activity is bubbling in the building materials sector with Scancem, the quoted Scandinavian group, attracting a queue of potential bidders. CRH is thought to be keen to buy Castle Cement, a subsidiary of Scancem which controls 25 per cent of the UK centent market, the largest stake after Blue Circle. CRH will face competition from RMC and Latarge, the French company.

holders, Skanska and Aker, which control 75 per cent of the group, have been forced to sell their stake by the competition authorities in Brussels, over concerns about dominance in

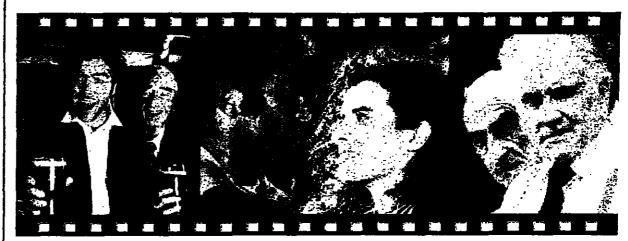
field to buy

merchants chain, from CRH. the Irish building materials group. Bidding closed late last week; Warburg Dillon Read, which is auctioning Keyline. will shortlist potential buyers. Keylîne will be sold as one

business, contrary to reports suggesting that the two favourites would carve it up between them, with Travis Perkins tak-ing the North of England and Scotland branches and Wolseley taking the South East. Other potential buyers include Graham Group, the quoted builder's merchant that was also named as a takeover target, and venture capitalists.

Scancem's two largest sharethe Nordic cement market.

WAKINGNED **EXCLUSIVE PREVIEWS**



Complimentary tick

his week *The Times* has teamed up with 20th Century Fox to offer readers the chance to see an exclusive preview screening of Waking Ned on Sunday morning, March 14 (exact times will be or the ticket). The film, a raucous modern fairy tale, was a surprise hit at the Cannes Film Festival and won rave reviews when it opened in America a Christmas. Inspired by a true story, Waking Ned follows the comic exploits of two friends as they stumble into a lottery scam of hilarious

For a FREE ticket, which admits two, collect five differently numbers tokens, attach them to the completed voucher right and present them at the cinema box office of your choice, from those listed belov Tickets will be issued on a first-come first-served basis between March 4 and 13. Waking Ned opens nationwide on March 19

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UCI CRIEMAS Basildon; Bracknell; Derby; Gateshead; Hatfield; Lee Valley; Milton Keynes; Preston; Sheffield; Solinul; Surrey Quays, London SE1; Sutton; Tarnworth; Tellant; Warrington; Whiteleys, London W2; Newcastle WILES Cardill; Swansea ODEON CRIEDIAS Streingham; Stackpool; Bournemoutir, Brighton; Bromborough;



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Bury: Cambridge: Croydon: Dagenham; Doncaster, Finchley, Harrow: Leeds; Leicester; Newcastle; Prestor; Shefflekt; Thurrock, Wattord, York SCOTLAND Inverness

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CHANGING TIMES

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THE FACTS

Market cap: £20.53 billion Turnover: in 1998 including associates: £8.3 billion. Pre-tax profits: £2.18 bil-

Employees: 46,550 Business: Cable & Wireless is an international telecommunications and multimedia operator providing services in more than 50 countries including the UK, the US, Hong Kong, Australia and Japan.

THE BOARD

Sir Ralph Robins, 65, chairman after being a non-executive since 1994. He is also chairman of Rolls-Royce and the Defence Industries

Graham Wallace, 50, chief executive, ran Cable & Wireless Communications and is a former finance director of Grana-

Rod Olsen, 53, is executive director for Asia Pacific. He joined Cable & Wireless in 1976. He plans to leave the company soon.

Robert Lerwill, 46, has been executive director, finance, since 1997 and joined Cable & Wireless from the WPP Group where he had been group finance director since 1986.

Linus Chung, 50, chief executive of Hongkong Telecom, used to be deputy managing director of Cathy

Pacific Airways. Stephen Pettit, 46, executive director, global business, joined Cable & Wireless in 1994 as European managing director from BP. He is also chairman of One-2-One.

The non-executives are: Winfried Bischoff, 56, chairman of Schroders; Janet Morgan, 52, writer and businesswoman; David Nash, 58, former chairman of Grand Metropolitan's food business; and Raymond Seitz, 57, vicechairman of Lehman Brothers and a former US Ambassador to the UK.

This week Graham Wal-lace is off to Hong Kong. Although in his career he has worked in the US for a couple of years the visit will mark the start of his new international career, as chief executive of Cable & Wireless, the most global of all the would-be dominators of the expanding telecommunications market.

Less than a week into the new job, earned by bashing together Mercury Communications and three cable companies, Bell Cablemedia, Videotron and Nynex CableComms. Wallace says he has "very clear ideas" about what to do with the company founded 125 years ago to take the electronic telegraph around the world. He is, however, old-fashioned enough to want to share them with his board and staff first. What is absolutely clear is where the emphasis will be placed and Wallace's role in it.

"This whole area of the Internet and data and what you can do through networks is an area where there is huge potential," he says.

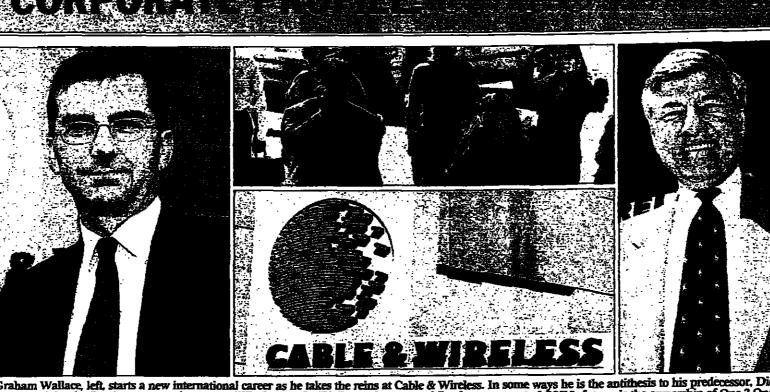
"I think the way the price/value cost equation is coming down we are just scratching the surface," adds Wallace, who spent the central part of his career at Granada Group, first as finance director and then running first the rental division and then restaurants services.

His management expertise therefore encompasses the financial disciplines, the service sector and the importance of brands all topped up by more than a dash of the latest communications technology acquired at CWC, the cable group.

Wallace, a gravelly voiced, dogged, home-spun executive, is in many ways the complete antithesis of his immediate predecessor, Dick Brown, a flambovant American.

With luck Wallace's appointment will end nine years of management instability at C&W stretching back nine years to the days when Lord Young of Graffham was chairman. The comings and goings have been such that Rod Olsen, who has run the Asia Pacific businesses, and is soon to leave the company to start a new life in Australia, has had to fill in as acting chief executive.

Even though it was always



Graham Wallace, left, starts a new international career as he takes the reins at Cable & Wireless. In some ways he is the antithesis to his predecessor, Dick Brown, right, the flamboyant American. One difficult issue for Wallace, who sees mobile phones as part of C&W's future, is the ownership of One-2-One

likely that Dick Brown would merely be passing through it is difficult to overestimate Brown's contribution. His plan to raise \$1 billion by tidying up a mish-mash of minority interests was a useful start. But it is the \$1 billion deal to buy the Internet backbone business of MCI that has helped to create much of the potential

that Wallace has inherited. Today SG Securities will publish a study of Cable & Wireless suggesting that the value of the Internet acquisition needs to be increased by more than £2 billion because of the ferment in Internet stocks.

The plan to spend another \$1 billion over five years building a fully intergrated voice, Internet and data super-network linking more than 40 European cities is another part of the jig-saw.

Yet to some extent Brown did the "easy" bits and Wallace faces the much tougher task of implementing the vision and dealing with a re-

maining knotty series of structural issues that the City, at least, believes will not go away if C&W is to make the full transition from a federation of fairly discrete entities into a fully integrated global player.

The first tricky problem is C&W's 54 per cent stake in Hongkong Telecom. The Lon-

solid pair of hands to run the business."

sions right."

PARTIE EXPERIENCE

"Cable & Wireless is going to be very strong in Internet-based te-

lephony and this is extremely important. It is in an incredibly

strong position relative to its peer group. Dick Brown did what was

"Cable & Wireless is a seemingly fabulous collection of tele-

coms assets but it is still an enigma. The question for Graham Wallace is how to make sense of that collection of assets. He

faces three or four big decisions, such as what to do about Chi-

na and One-2-One. The challenge will be getting the big deci-

ary to restructure the company; now Graham Wallace is a

don-based group has successfully negotiated both the hando-ver in 1997 and the opening-up of the market to competition but hopes of an early entry into mainland China seem likely to be frustrated for some time:

Jim McCaffery, SG Securities

With analysts predicting falling revenues in Hong Kong C&W will have to decide

whether to play what could be a very long game in China. Dresdner Kleinwort Benson suggests that it might be sensible to de-couple Hongkong Tel-ecom from the rest of Cable & Wireless so that investors do not have to invest in the future of telecommunications in Chi-

na whether they like it or not. Another difficult issue is the ownership of One-2-One, the mobile phone company in the UK, a 50-50 joint venture with Media-One, the US cable company.

There is a bit of an impasse because both sides would probably like to be a 100 per cent owner. but the likely outcome is a flotation of a minority stake in One-2 One. Wallace sees mobile as part of the group's future as part of the range of delivery mechanisms to bring services to cus-tomers and says the relationship is working well. "I wouldn't see it as a pressing problem because

it works," says Wallace. As the former head of CWC Graham Wallace may find him-

self having to take some urgent decisions about Telewest, one of the other big three cable operators. There is a widespread belief that major Telewest share-holder TCL/AT&T is prepared to sell its stake, and Wallace may have to decide to bid or see the company go to the other ma-

jor cable player, NTL. Analysis would also like to see some of the potential US Internet value crystallised with the float of a minority stake in the US Internet business.

Whichever way Wallace jumps on this and other issues what is clear is that the venerable company is once again in the midst of reinventing itself and can justly claim that its reputation as a slumbering giant has already been transformed. There are global banks and

organisations like Andersen Consulting who are giving us business that three years ago we would not have got because they believe we can provide the packaging that they want french fort to gibbic.

fort creating a Cable & Wireless Communications brand in the public mind. At first he was worried that the words "cable" and "wiseless" were old-fashiesed. His children put him right. Cable was associated in their minds with cable television and wireless with trendy cordless communications. So the name Cable & Wireless stays.
It is not known yet how much

around the world," says Olsen.
At CWC Wallace spent an enor-

mous amount of money and ef-

he will be paid but Dick Brown's 1998 pay would have exceeded 64 million although most was performance-related. According to Crisp Consulting this is double the amount expected for someone of his experience in a FTSE company, although the telecoms sector has special fea-tures. The "impressive" non-executives are paid £30,000 a year Cable & Wireless also scores

well on ethical expression. According to Integrity Works, which has acted as advisers to C&W, it has a clear ethics policy which has been communicated to staff through designated staff in each business area.

As he starts to explore his new domain Graham Wallace has set himself the task of turning C&W into one of the world's top telecoms players in five years. He has a long way to go. In the past year C&W has un-derperformed the telecoms sec-tor in the FTSE 100 by 63 per cent. Its progress will attract the closest scrutiny and if the poten-tial does not turn into reality 125 years of independence could easily come to an end.

RAYMOND SNODDY

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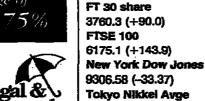
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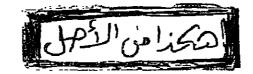
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CHANGE ON WEEK

US Dollar

1.6013 (-0.0282)

0.6854 (+0.0045) Exchange index

100.9 (-1.0)

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French efforts to cut jobless figures rebound

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

THE French Government's efforts to attack unemployment through a cut in working hours is turning into an expensive fiaseo that will handicap French companies, according

to new research.

The study shows that, half-way through a two-year programme, the scheme has created just 24.155 jobs. France's Socialist-led Government had hoped that it would create be-tween 400,000 and 700,000 over the period.

But the project is not only inefficient, but also costly. An investigation by the pro-Government news magazine, Le Nouvel Observateur, concluded that it could end up costing the state between Fro5 billion (£6.7 billion) and Fri00 billion a year for the forseeable future. This is a figure that makes the Finance Ministry red with

rage," said the magazine. Analysis say the only benefit from the legislation will be increased flexibility in France's otherwise rigid working practices.

The flagship policy of Prime Minister Lionel Jospin's Government was once touted as a French response to a French problem — high unemployment just under three million. Companies employing more

than 200 people were given two years to negotiate a reduction in the working week from 39 to 35 hours with no loss of pay for staff. Smaller firms have twice as long. Employers who meet the timetable are rewarded with tax reductions of Fr5.000 per worker per year.

Croissance Plus, an association that represents blue-chip firms, said the move will add I-r5 million to the costs of the average medium-sized firm, even after state aid of Fr2 million. As a result, most industrialists are doing their best to get round the legislation.

Nowhere was this clearer than in the deal struck by unions representing 1.8 million metal workers and miners with employers such as Renault, the carmaker. The working week r creased by four hours, basic salaries remained the same. and overtime rose. In return, union leaders agreed to flexible working panerns.

BAA says terminal failure will cost £250m

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

BAA, the airports operator. will this week put a £250 million price tag on failure to win approval for a fifth terminal at Heathrow. Lawyers for the company will set out the high cost of work already completed on the £1.8 billion project that is running at least five years behind schedule.

BAA will make its final submission to the Terminal Five inquiry, which is entering the last formight of its marathon

run of almost three years.

The cost of buying land, of designing the building and paying for legal teams at the inquiry has been a huge drain on BAA, which must now wait until at least 2001 before ministers finally decide whether to give the scheme the go-ahead. If successful, BAA hopes to open the terminal in 2006.

In this week's summing-up. David Silsoe, BAA's counsel, will tell the inquiry that the company will accept a legally binding freeze on the number of night flights to try to meet local fears about noise. However, he will reject as unworkable protesters' demands for a total ban on night flights.

BAA, whose chief executive is Sir John Egan, is confident that it could win approval and believe the length of the inquiry has strengthened its case, although the company has some fears that conditions attached to approval could make the project unviable. Des Wilson, BAA's corpo-

rate director, said: "Everything that we warned about at the beginning of the inquiry is now being shown to be true." Congestion at Heathrow, both at the airport and on surrounding roads, is deterring many passengers and some airlines from using the world's busiest

international airport.
The massive growth of rival airports at Amsterdam, Frankfurt and Paris has underlined fears that Britain could lose its pre-eminence as an international link, unless extra capacity is provided. The airport is struggling to cope with its 58 million annual passengers but BAA says an extra terminal would enable it to set a permanent ceiling of 80 million passengers.

The company insists that it would never build a third runway that would allow passenger numbers to surge towards 100 million. Campaigners against the terminal remain unconvinced and have used their final submissions to the inquiry to underline their concerns that an additional terminal will lead to further expansion of the airport and even greater growth han predicted by BAA.

Traffic at Heathrow is grow ing by just 3 per cent because of the capacity constraints on airlines. That compares with an overall 7 per cent rise in airline traffic for all of BAA's airports. much of which is being generated at Stansted which is accommodating spillover traffic from Heathrow and Garwick.



Sir John Egan, left, and Russell Walls, BAA finance director, with a model of the fifth terminal

Float looming for Canary Wharf project

By MARTIN WALLER

week expected to confirm plans for a stock market float and to indicate what proportion of the company will be off-

ered to investors.

The decision will boost the troubled property share mar-ket, which on Friday received further negative news as BAA cancelled plans to float its property subsidiary, Lynton. Although Canary Wharf, which owns and developed the

London Docklands site, has never confirmed intending to float, all the advisers are now in place and preparations are in hand for a spring market de-but that would value the company at more than £2 billion. The final decision is expected to go to the wire, given the current state of the markets. However, it is expected that Canary Wharf will announce decision and give a guide as to how much of the company

will be floated. Although a float could raise

CANARY WHARF is this be to offer an exit for the group of investors who bought the company from the banks after

its bankruptcy in 1992. They include Franklin Mutual and CNA Financial, two US funds. Prince al-Walced bin Talal, the Saudi investor. and Paul Reichmann, the Canadian property developer who initiated the scheme only to see it bring about the collapse

of his business empire.

Canary Wharf has 4.7 million so fit built, and 2.1 million sq ft under development. The float prospectus is likely to focus more on growth prospects and the further 6.5 million sq ft potentially available on un-developed land, and the proba-bility of rises in rental levels as tenancies granted when the development was in financial difficulties come up for renewal.

Crucial to a float is the arrival this year of the Jubilee Line extension of the Tube. An attempt to take the project public last year was pulled because of stock market uncertainty.

Grid gets chief at Littlewoods

Littlewoods, the retail group, is to succeed David Jefferies as chairman of National Grid. the electricity network.

Mr Ross, aged 60, will join the National Grid board today and take over as non-executive chairman when Mr Jefferies retires at the company's annual general meeting in July. He will remain non-executive chairman of Littlewoods.

Before joining Littlewoods, Mr Ross was chief executive of Cable & Wireless, from 1992 to 1995. He had earlier been managing director of British Petroleum and chairman and chief operating officer of BP America. Mr Jefferies said: "James Ross's knowledge of the energy

and telecoms sectors, together

with his experience in overseas

markets, suits him ideally to

CLOSED ISSUES

GROSS% NET% AER% GROSS% NET% AER%

JAMES ROSS, chairman of the group as it expands ... beyoud our core UK business. National Grid last month announced a 50 per cent interest in a Brazilian telecoms consortium, in which it will put up to £200 million over four years.



Asda ready to fight back in price war

By SAEED SHAH

ASDA, the supermarket chain, is preparing to deliver a broadside in the latest round of the supermarket price war, with plans for extensive price cuts. Asda is thought to be responding to an initiative by Tesco, which tried to outmanoeuvre its rivals earlier this month by cutting the prices of hundreds of products. Asda is

believed to be preparing a re-sponse, which could be unveiled as early as next week. The Tesco initiative, which covers all its 600 stores, saw the prices of some 240 items reduced by up to 25 per cent. The campaign is thought to be costing Tesco up to £1 million a week in lost revenues.

Asda refused to give any details of its plan over the weekend but it is believed that it will pledge to undercut its ri-

vals permanently and cut the cost of thousands of items. Price-cutting promotions have increased ahead of the results of the official investigation into competition among the big supermarkets.

The Office of Fair Trading inquiry into profits of the four leading chains, which together con-trol 45 per cent of the £87 billiona-year grocery market, was due to report before Christmas. It is expected to reveal its decision in the spring, which will determine whether a full-scale inquiry by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission is appropriate.

AMOUNT INVESTED

Olivetti wins approval for **Telecom bid**

By Carl Mortished, international business editor

businesses.

HEECOM (TALIA has been pushed back on to the defensive by Consob, the Italian stock market regulator that has approved Oliveni's £36 billion bid for the telephone utility.

Ouveril's success in winning opening skirmish in the A wid v Gohath battle means that Telecom Italia will be unable to put into place poison pills. or a restructuring of the busi-ness designed to deter Olivetti. Telecom Italia had indicated

its interest in merging its of per cent mobile-phone affiliate. HM a move that would have put the phone utility beyond the financial reach of Olivetti. Franco Bernabe, Telecom haha's chief executive, said: "I don't have any poison pills in my pecket but I have a plan; increasing the value of our com-

Consob gave the go-thead for Oliveni's filt at Telecom Itaha over the weekend after inistally ruling the bid inadmissible Consoliobjected to the condinonality of the offer which depends on securing a deal with Mannesmann, Olivetti's German partner, under which Mannesmann would buy Oliventi's share in Omnitel and Infostrada, the fast-growing mobile and fixed-link telecoms

The Consob decision means that Olivetti's offer must be launched in April. The lengthy interregnum is necessary for Mannesmann to secure approval from the Government for the takeover of the Omnitel and Infostrada licences. Oliveni failed to increase its

offer from €10 (£6.80) per share but the deal approved by Consob includes a five trillion lire (CL7 billion) cash call by Olivetti and firmer arrange ments with Mannesmann. Both Olivetti and Telecom Italia face a new competitor in

the telecoms sector. Wind, a jojnt venture between Enel. the energy utility. France Tele-com and Deutsche Felekom which plans to secure up to 1.5 million users in 1909. Wind launches its service on

Monday and claims an advantage over Olivetti and Telecom Italia because it is selling both fixed and mobile services at

Williams out to rescue its image

By PAUL ARMSTRONG

conglomerate, will this week try to improve its tattered image by highlighting growth in its Australian operations. It may be Williams's last chance to convince investors that the paints-to-fire extinghashers group can achieve respectable earnings growth and improve a depressed market rating, its shares have badly underperformed the FTSE 100

over five years and failure to

confuse the City could lead to

calls for radical changes and

m3...gement upheaval. Wil-

liams hopes to meet analysis.

WILLIAMS, the 1980s-style demands for organic sales growth of up to 10 per cent in its Australian security and fire protection business.

The crucial figure will be given on Thursday in Williams's annual profit result, expected to be in line with City forecasts of 200 million before tax. Williams aims to use the profit report to argue that its move away from manufacturing and into fire protection and security services will deliver earnings growth and a rating closer to a service rather than manufacturing business. It sees its Australian side as a model.

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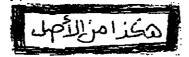
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This week's meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is more than usually signifi-cant. I do not refer to the likely outcome for interest rates. (which I think will be a further cut of 0.25 percentage point), but rather to something of wider import. For it will be the first meeting since the publication of the National Changeover Plan, which lays out a path for Britain's preparations for the euro.

Not that the plan said a great deal about monetary policy or the exchange rate. or indeed the MPC. In fact, it said nothing at all about these weighty matters. Funny that. There was a lot about tills and IT requirements but nothing about managing the monetary system itself.

Even so, last week we gained a fascinating insight from a different source. The Governor of the Bank of England was asked about what plans the Bank had for a switch of monetary regime to prepare us for the euro. None, came the answer. Nor had he even talked about the issue with the Chancellor. The MPC's "marching orders" were quite clear - to set interest rates at whatever level was necessary to hit the

Nothing wrong with that, you might say. But how is this But, apparently, we are going

to be squared with preparing Britain for the euro? If interest rates are to be set to target inflation, then they cannot simultaneously be used to achieve convergence with euroland at an acceptable exchange rate. Of course, maintaining inflation at 2.5 per cent should help to impart some stability to the economy and reduce the likely range of differences with euro-land. So, perhaps, if the MPC just carries on targeting 2.5 per cent, everything will be all

right — fingers crossed.

But the European average inflation rate is 0.8 per cent. and looking to be heading lower still, compared with our corresponding figure of 1.6 per cent. Meanwhile, our interest rates are nearly twice the euro level. In other words, there is a fair bit of converging yet to be done.

One option, if monetary policy were to play its role in bringing about convergence, would be to raise interest rates, or at least to stop cutting them, so as to force inflation down to the point where we could comfortably live with 3 per cent interest rates. If the Government were pretty confident that our economies were converging anyway, another option might be to move interest rates gradually towards the euro level.



and hope for the best. What about the exchange rate itself? At the moment, although the Bank takes the level of sterling into account when setting rates to hit the inflation target, it has no target level for sterling itself, and the pound can and does vary widely. If the Government were to try to establish sterling at some reasonable level before entry and then to keep it there, it would not be able to maintain the existing monetary policy regime.

There could be some sort of hybrid encompassing both an exchange rate and inflation target, but the clearest regime would be one where interest rates were managed so as to keep sterling within a certain range against the euro. If the pound threatened to move outside, then rates would have to be changed to whatever level was necessary to keep the pound there, regardless of the level of British inflation, and regardless of the consequences for the economy. Does this ring a bell? Perhaps if I men-tioned the word "scintilla" it would give you a clue.
This policy involves precise-

ly the problem that Britain experienced in the ERM. Indeed, the Maastricht treaty lays down an exchange rate criterion for EMU membership, namely that a candidate currency should have stayed within the bands of the ERM for at least two years without undue strain. For understandable reasons, the British Government rejects this criterion. But it is there for a reason, namely to ensure that the currency alignment which it is proposed to hold "forever" should be workable. That is perfectly reasonable. It is a bit like the benefits of a courtship, as opposed to getting married on the first date.

Moreover, in the case of most of the euro members, their relationship has stronger and deeper roots even than that. France, for instance, has maintained an effectively fixed exchange rate against the mark for more than ten

This is not Britain's position. Since the exit from the ERM, the pound has traded at levels between 2.16 against the mark and 3.11. Where should it be? It is difficult to be sure. But you would think, wouldn't you, that the Gov-ernment which proposes to fix it for all time would present us with some sort of mechanism for judging the appropriate rate - not to mention some strategy for get-ting and keeping it there be-fore the final deed is done?

S o you should relish the MPC's decision this Wednesday. Whatever the decision, it will have been taken in regard to an objective set by the British Government

in pursuit of British interests. Moreover, in taking its decision, the MPC will be fully accountable to Parliament. Indeed, the way that it emerged that there was apparently no transition planning on mone-tary policy was richly ironic. It emerged as the Governor was being questioned by the Treasury Select Committee of the House of Commons.

Any member of the public could go to that meeting and hear the MPC obliged to account for its actions by democratically elected representatives of the people. That is precisely what cannot happen with the ECB — even in Frankfurt, Strasbourg or Brussels.

Prospectors beat a path to Africa's new streets of gold

Cash-strapped producers are setting sights on liberalised Tanzania to cut

their costs, writes Rachel Bridge

Tanzania has been virtually a closed book to the world's international goldmining giants, thanks to a socialist regime, sweeping nationalisation and the shunning of foreign investors. The tiny amounts of gold ore that did get taken out of the ground were dug out by small-scale artisanal miners scratching out a living in remote corners of the Tanzanian scrub.

But the stage has been set for a dramatic revival of the minopens its doors for business to foreign investors following a series of economic reforms.

In the past year alone the Tanzanian Government has introduced a number of key changes for foreign gold producers, including a new mining code, a fiscal package specifically for mining that does not require companies to give the State a stake in the venture — formerly it took a mandatory 10 per cent stake - and a new investment code which exempts foreign firms from import duty on equipment and sales tax and allows profits to be repair ated.

The surge of interest in Tan-

or almost 40 years zania has also been prompted by the goldmining industry's increasingly desperate search for ever-lower cost production in an effort to withstand the effects of the historically weak gold price. According to the World

Gold Analyst, the weighted average cash cost of extracting gold fell by 20 per cent from \$264 per oz (£165) in June 1996 to just \$210 per oz in 1998 as companies strived to remain profitable while the gold price dropped to as low as \$275.

ing analyst at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, said: "There is a big drive for low-cost production. Any mining company will tell you that their emphasis is on having low-cost assets. The big question is whether you bring on lower-cost mines than everyone else - and that is obviously what they think they

can do in Tanzania." Last month the tiny village of Lusu in the northwest corner of Tanzania played host to the country's President, Benjamin Mkapa, and several hundred local dignitaries to celebrate the opening of the \$48 million Golden Pride



Golden Pride, Tanzania's first big goldmine since independence in 1961, opened last month

mine, Tanzania's first largescale goldmine since independence in 1961.

Greeted by local dancers and musicians in brightly dressed costumes, the opening of the mine, a 50-50 joint venture project between Ashanti Goldfields and Resolute, the Australian mining company, is the first of what is expected to be a raft of foreign investmentbacked goldmining projects starting up in Tanzania. Following hard on the heels of the Golden Pride project are

three other big foreign-owned goldmining ventures set to begin production next year: Ashanti's huge proposed mine at Geita; the Bulyankulu mine in Kahama District being developed by the Canadian mining company Sutton Resources; and the Australian mining company Afrika Mashariki Gold Mines' 130,000-ounce gold project in Tarime Dis-trict. Other overseas goldminers are also running a slide rule over the place - feasibility studies are under way by South Africa's Anglo-Ameri-can Corporation, while Placer Dome, Maiden Gold, Ormonde Mining, Universal Gold and Kimberly Resources are all spending significant

amounts on exploration. The figures tell the story while total worldwide gold ex-ploration expenditure dropped by 40 per cent from \$2.61 billion in 1997 to just \$1.56 billion in 1998, mineral exploration ex-

Answers from page 31

into musicke."

penditure in Tanzania has steadily climbed the other way, jumping from \$6 million in 1992 to more than \$80 million in 1997 and expected to reach \$200 million by 2000.

Peter Cowley, managing di-

rector of Exploration at Ashanti, says the combination of good mineral prospects and government reforms have turned Tanzania into an extremely attractive destination. He said: "At resent in terms of exploration for gold. Tanzania is the numher one country in Africa. The growth in African gold production is coming from Tanzania and if anybody wants to explore in Africa they will be try-ing to get a position there. A big catalyst is that the Government has improved the physical code greatly to encourage foreign investment in the mining sector. And geologically Tanzania is favourable because the rocks are very similar to the big provinces of Western Australia."

Ashanti, based in Ghana, moved into Tanzania in 1996 with the purchase of the Geita property from Cluff Resources. And last year it sharply expanded the size of the proposed mine there with the acquisition of Samax Gold, whose Kukuluma licences were adjacent to the Geita site, and so have enabled Ashanti to develop the two properties as a single giant mine, scheduled to produce 400,000 ounces a year.

Mr Cowley said the Geita mine would operate on a cash

WORD-WATCHING

(a) One versed in harmony or music; a musician. A word con-

structed from harmony copying musician. Holland, Plutarch's Moralia, 1603: "Lasus the harmonian brought a greate change

(c) A soup made of various vegetables, especially carrots, chopped and cooked in meat broth. 1722, presumably a kitchen

(c) A chest, box or coffer. In Scotland the specific form for a serv-

ant's trunk. "The instances where an organ - or a kist o' whis-

tles, as this noble instrument has been termed - has gained fa-

(b) To give handsel (to a person); to present with, give or offer,

something auspicious at the commencement of the year or day,

1 Bel! Threatening 2 Qh6+ Qh7 3 Bb2+ leaves Black with no

good defence, e.g. 1 ... Qg7 2 Bb2t Qxb2 3 Qh6 checkmate

eponym from a cook named Jules or Julien.

the beginning of an enterprise.

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE

vour in a Scottish congregation, are exceptional."

cost of production of just \$170 an ounce compared with Ashanti's average cash costs of production of \$218. The Golden Pride project is expected to produce an annual average of 180,000 ounces of gold at a cash cost of less than \$200 per ounce. Mr Cowley said: "In today's market you have to have low cash costs. We are all lowering our costs just to keep up with each other. If you can't get your costs down then you

won't survive."

Gerard Holden, global head of mining and metals at Barclays Capital, the lead syndicate banker on the Golden Pride project, said that Tanzania has three factors working in its favour: outside South Africa it is one of the top three countries in Africa in terms of gold mineralisation prospectivity; it has seen big changes in its mining law; and it has not been affected by huge amounts of conflict. He explained: "You start to see a fairly rosy picture. The whole goldmining sector in Tanzania could significantly change the country's economic performance. Within five years they could be producing a million and a half ounces of gold a year which would put them quite significantly on the map."

¶anzania has a long history of goldmin-ing dating back to the turn of the first millennium when Arabs settled on the east coast to purchase the gold produced by African workers. The first commercial mines were developed in 1909 by German colonists after the discovery of gold in the Lake Victoria area, and by 1939 gold was one of Tanzania's biggest

exports.
The late 1960s and 1970s, however, saw a steep decline in production, and the industry virtually ground to a halt, with just 84 ounces sold in 1975 as the country pursued a policy of *ujamaa* — African socialism — under Julius Nyerere, Tanza-

nia's first President The Tanzanian Government confidently expects a gold boom in the next two years. Opening the Golden Pride mine, Presi-dent Mkapa said: "There is a boom in mineral exploration in the country for gold, base metals, diamonds and uranium, despite the current low prices in the market. That speaks a lot for the quality and abundance of our resources."

TELEVISION CHOICE

Trouble in the East

Channel 4, 9pm

The second film in Phil Agland's seven-part series about contemporary China continues the main storyline: the police attempt, via an informer, to set storyline: the police attempt, via an informer, to set up a drugs bust to catch a Muslim dealer from Canton. A new theme added tonight is the rehearsals by the Children's School of the Shanghai Opera for a production of a traditional Chinese opera about betrayal. This almost too neat counterpoint (after all, the drug-dealer and his mimons hardly equate with the wronged wife in the opera) makes it a less satisfactory film than the first, shown last night, but it is still mesmerising and compelling. One might find it impossible to imagine that a Chinese film-maker would be allowed the apparently complete access to British police the apparently complete access to British police operations and the prison service which Agland has enjoyed from the authorities in Shanghai.

BBC2, 11.15pm

Classic FM, 6.30pm

The producer, Gerard Barry, describes this The producer, Gerard Barry, describes this documentary series about groupings among Britain's under-Zis as "not another patronising, late and embarrassing TV attempt to get to "the kids". God forbid we should pass judgment. Given adolescents' tendency to exaggerate to any adult willing to let them brag about their behaviour, one might hope that those sequences of these short films which show criminal or merely antisocial behaviour are fantasy rather than fact. But under-age drinking, drug-taking, vandalism. But under-age drinking, drug-taking, vandalism, dangerous driving and loutishness are facts of life. There are also less disruptive, if no less contentious subjects, including "coming out" in Northern Ireland.

To the Ends of the Earth: The Battle for Titanic Channei 4, 8pm

John Peel narrates this quite surprising account (given our exposure to the subject) of how the wreck of the RMS Titanic was discovered, fought over and exploited. It is a tale of deceit and

ingly dominated, elsewhere, by high-profile presenters. Brunning is simply good.

RADIO 1 (BBC)

Mark Racistife 4.00 Chris Moyles 5.45 Newsbeat 6.00 Dave Pearce 8.00 Lamacq Live. Featuring Streophonics, and a special feature on the making of new Underworld album 12.00mm The Breezeblock 2.00 Clive Warren 4.00 Scott Mils

6.00mm Sarah Kennady 7.30 Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00pm Juliet Monte 2.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 Johnnie Walker 7.00 Humphrey Lytteton 8.00 \$80 Band Special 6.30 Joose Holland (5/13) 9.30 Mark Lamerr. Shake, Ratile and Roll (6/10) 10.30 Flichard Allinson 12.00mm Lynn Parsons 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

d Armie Webster 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00pm The Middey ws 1.00 Ruscoe and Co 4.00 Drive with Peter Allen and

5.00cm Morning Reports 6.00 Breakfast with Julian Worticks

News 1.00 Ruscoe and Co surv Lave man. Jeans, Alesteir Jane Garvey 7.00 News Edra 7.30 Dreem Teams, Alesteir Cambbell chooses his tayounte Burnley players 8.00 Trevor

Brooking's Monday Match, Leicester City v Leeds United. Commentary on the Premiership game at Filbert Street 10.00 Late Night Live with Nick Robinson 1.00ean Up Al Night

TALK RADIO

6.00mm The Big Boys Breeklast 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00pm Let's Talk Soep 1.00 Anne Raebum 3.00 Peter Deeley 5.00

The SportZone 8.00-James Whale 1.00am Ian Collins and the

VIRGIN

Creatures of the Night

dropout son. Then an even mastier accident occurs. Whatever next? Tony Patrick RADIO CHOICE

Radio 4, 8pm

BBC2, 9pm

The fine print of the last audience research figures ontained a couple of interesting items, including the fact that 658,000 people are now listening, at some point during the week, to this programme. Classic Newsnight, not to be confused with anything related to Jeremy Paxman, deserves a listen for it is a smooth and comprehensive review of the deserves notice as the couple of feeture items through day's news with a couple of feature items thrown in, including a CD review by Richard Baker and a health slot presented by Dr Mark Porter, the telegenic GP. But the key figure is the presenter, John Brunning, who brings exactly the right tone of measured calm to a programme area increasingly dominated elsewhere he high-profile.

This is the second in an excellent series by Pere White about what happens to families when one of their number is put in prison. Tought's programme meets people whose sons or daughters have been jailed and, as with last week's opener about the effect on a marriage of one partner being joiled we hear from truly bernic people bernic in about the effect on a marriage of one partner being jailed, we hear from truly heroic people; heroic in the sense that they have suffered hearthreak without imposing their pain on others. Stan Gregory and his wife Doreen, whose daughter Sandra was convicted of heroin trafficking in Thailand, describe how they had to stop having any contact with the people around them, not through any lack of support but because Doreen simply could not take the sympathy.

Peter Barnard

A heroin dealer is arrested in the second

episode of Shanghai Vice (Channel 4, 9pm)

spin-doctoring (at every level from the US Navy down to individuals), lingation and cack-handedness, which leaves virtually all of those involved under suspicion of, at best, moral and ethical ambiguity. The most astonishing aspect may be that, with the wreck still virtually un-protected, those who have made the most capital out of the street of a marriane discrete.

a mass grave and the scene of a maritime disaster show no sign of recognising that this is the case.

If the first of Tony Grounds's three-part series was

If the first of Tony Grounds's three-part series was slightly over the top, part two is so far over that it is coming back up the other side. The three libelong friends (Ray Winstone, Phill Davis and Mark Strong) have apparently survived the problems raised by their "stag" outing, and Strong's new wife has had a healthy baby. Winstone, richer and brasher than ever, gives the others jobs with his own company, but Davis discovers that his idolised wife (Tessa Peake-Jones) fell pregnant while at school, and Winstone's schoolgirl daughter is arrested for trespassing with Davis's dropout son. Then an even master accident occurs

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Births, Marriages and Deaths

BBC WORLD SERVICE

5.00am The World Today 7.00 World News 7.16 This Woman Thing 7.65 My Century 8.00 World News 8.05 Record News 8.29 Off the Sheft: Captain Corell's Mandolin 8.35 Health Matters-9.00 World News 9.05 Westway Access 9.20 The Virtage Chart Show 9.60 Sports Round-Up 10.00 Navisdesk 10.30 British Today 10.45 The Farming World 71.00 Newstesk 11.30 Pick of the World 12.00pm World News 12.06 Outlook 12.45 Sports Round-Up 1.00 Newshour 2.00 World News 2.05 Health Matters 2.30 Meridian 3.00 World News 2.05 Sports Round-Up 1.00 Newshour 2.00 World News 2.05 Sports Round-Up 6.00 World News 6.15 British Composer of the Month 4.00 World News 4.15 Insight 4.20 Multitrack: HR-List 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Round-Up 6.00 World News 6.15 British Today 6.30 Warm World 7.00 World News 7.05 Health Matters 7.30 Clouded Filts 7.45 Off the Sheff: Captain Corell's Mandolin 8.00 Newshour 9.00 World News 3.05 World News 10.15 Sports Round-Up 10.30 Multitrack Hil-List 11.00 World News 11.05 Outlook 11.45 Insight 12.00am The World Today 13.0 Westway 1.45 Record News 2.00 The World Today 13.30 World Susiness Report 3.46 Insight 4.00 The World Today 13.30 World Susiness Report 3.46 Insight 4.00 The World Today 3.30 World Susiness Report 3.46 Insight 4.00 The World Today 3.30 World Business Report 3.46 Insight 4.00 The World Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Balley's Easier Breaklast. Fevourite musical works, plus regular information updates 8.00 Henry Kelly The Hall of Farne Hour and CD of the Week 12.00pm Lunchtime Requests. Jane Jones presents listeners' favourités 2.00 Concerto. Mozart (Clarinet Concerto) 3.00 Jamie Crick. Continuous Classics and Alliamnon Romanos 6.30 Classic Continuous Classics and Alliamnon Romanos 6.30 Classic Newsnight, John Brunning presents the tatest stories. See Choice 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. Two hours of sociating sounds 9.00 Evening Concert. Prokoliev (Romeo and Julet), Rachmaninov (Piano Concerto No 3) 11.00 Mann at Night. Wind down with the sound of ambient music introduced by Alan Mann 2.00em Concerto, Mozart (Clarinet Concerto) (r) 3.00 Mark Griffets. The Early Breaklast Show

6.00am On Air Music and arts news with Petroc Trelewiny, including a review of Copland's El salon Mexico conducted by Martyn Brabbins in Glasgow's Royal Concert Hall Masterworks with Peter Hobday, Includes Handel (Overture: Ariodante); Bach, reconstr Schneider (Concerto in C minor for violin and oboe.)

(College II C Harbiro II Visit and College II C Harbirov Passion); Busoni, an Adams (Berceuse elegiaque); Schubert (Piano Sonata In G. D894) 19.30 Artist of the Week The Dutch conductor Bernar Haltink talks to Joen Bakeweil 11.00 Sound Stories: Family Affairs Peggy Reynolds

remembers the early-music dynasty founded by Amoid Domeisch

12.00pm Composer of the West: Tchalkovsky

1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtituse Concert Joan Rodgers, soprano, Julius Drake, pieno. Poulenc (Fiancaites pour fire); Faure (Le jardin clos); Rosenthal (4 plus

3 7; L'elephant du jardin des plantes; La souris 3.7; L'elephant du jardin des plantes; La souris d'Angleterre; Fido)

2.00 The BBIC Orchestras BBC Philharmonic under Yan Pascal Tortelier, Rumon Gamba and Vassily Sinalsky, John Lill, pieno. Eiger (Introduction and Allegro); Selena Kay (Queen of the Nighti); Seiril-Saans (Plano Concerto No 2 in G minor); Stellus (En Saga; Symphony No 1)

4.00 Opera In Action with Robert Lloyd

4.45 Music Mechine with Tommy Pearson

5.00 In Tune with Sean Rafferty, Includes Mozart

6.30mm Russ Williams 9.30 Mark Fornst 1.00mm Nick Abbot 4.00 Harriet Scott 6.45 Pete and Geoff 10.00 James Mentit 1.00mm Stave Power 4.30 Richard Allen

(Basson Concerto in B flat, K191)

7.30 Performance on 3: Myths in Music Beginning a Monday concert season, Jean Rigby, mezzo, BBC Philharmonic under Edward Downes. Bax (Tintagel); Bantock (Sappho) 8.20 Francesca da Rimini, Joseph Farrell explores the life and disaffund the adultaress 8.40 Prokofiev (Suita: Egyptamy Nights); Tohaikovsky (Francesca da Rimini)

9.35 Postscript: Cultural Nationalism A week of

9.35 Postscript: Cultural Nationalism A week of programmes exploring the ancient and continuing association of the ans with nation-building 10.00 Volces lain Burnside presents the second of two programmes featuring the bartione Simon Kesnlyside with Majcolm Martineau, piano, recorded last morth at the Wigmore Hail 10.45 littleing it Mark Russell and Robert Sandal present a mix of musical styles and influences: 11.30 Jazz Notes Alyn Shipton presents a musical tribute to Stephane Grappelli 12 Martin Commonar of the Market Russe Company to

tribute to Stephane Grappelli

12.00am Composer of the Week: Aaron Copland (r)

1.00 Through the Night Includes 1.00 Abegg Trio.
Beethoven (Pleno Trio In E flat, Op 70 No 2).
Herze (Chamber Sonata) 2.20 Rautavaera
(Regular Sets of Elements) 2.35 Beethoven
(Eroica Variations) 3.00 Schools: Music Box 3.15
Something to Think About 3.30 EAL: Let's Miele a
Story 3.45 Stories and Rhymes 4.00 Find Out

4.15 Mattrs Challenge 4.30 Hopscoich 4.45.
Scottish Resources 7-9 5.00 Bach (Fantasie,
BWV922) 5.05 Telemann (Sonata in A)

RADIO 4

5.30am World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast
5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Preyer for the Day
5.47 Farming Today Presented by Charlotte Smith
6.01 Today with Sue MacGregor and James Naughtie
9.00 Start the Week Discussion programme, hosted
by Jeremy Peamen
9.45 (FM) Seriet: Zarafa Part one. Andrew Sachs
reads the story of a giraffe given to the lang of
France in 1826 which won the hearts of the nation
9.45 (FM) Daily Service A St David's Day service from
Albarry Road Baptist Church in Cardiff. Director of
music Andrew Wisson-Dickson
10.00 Woman's Hour with Martha Kearney and guests
11.00 Tuning into Children Kinsty Wark looks at how
children develop a sense of gender (3/6)
11.30 The King of Betti Second of a six-part corned
12.00 (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast
12.00pm (FM) News 12.04 You and Yours Consumer
news and stories with Liz Barday and John Waite
1.30 Counterpoint Semi-final of the general
knowledge music quiz, hosted by Ned Shemin
2.00 The Archers Yesterday's edition (f)
2.15 Afternoon Play: High in the Clouds Don
Havorth's humorous story about the impact of the
Second World Wer on a small Lanceshire
community. Staring Stephen Thome, Christian
Rodske and Brigit Forsyth

Second World War on a small Lanceshire community. Starring Stephen Thome, Christian Rodska and Brigit Forsyth

3.00 Money Box Live: 0870 010 0444 Vincent Duggiety takes isseners' calls on financial issues

3.30 First Mights Lite-changing moments, beginning with a couple who waited until they were married before sleeping together (1/5) (r)

3.46 This Sceptred late Arma Massey namates part 41 of the history of Britain (r)

4.00 The Food Programme Simon Parkes investigates the new Food Standards Agency's aims and agenda (r)

4.30 Turning World with Jenni Murtay and guests
5.00 PM Presented By Clare English and Chris Lowe
6.00 Stx O'Clock News
6.30 Just a Mitmute Tony Hawks, Derek Nimmo,
Graham Norton and Linda Smith by to speak for
60 seconds without hesisting, repetition or

Graham Norton and Linda Smith try to speak for 60 seconds without hesitation, repetition or deviation at the Sheffield Lyceum 7.00 The Archera 7.15 Front Row Mark Lawson talks to the former Yalksyboard player Rick Walksman 7.45 The Cry of the Bittent Environmental drama by Tim Jackson, starring Rachel Altions. Broadcast earlier as part of Wornan's Hour (7) 8.00 Silent Sentence Peter White investigates the repercussions of crime on the perpetrator's tarrily. See Choice (2/3)

repercussions of (See Choice (2/3)

See Choice (2/3)

8.30 Analysis Ian Hargreaves examines ways in which the Government could learn from private sector management models

9.00 Nature Howard Stableford explores the environment of the sector of the

management models
9.00 Nature Howard Stableford explores the environmental impact of ocean currents such as El Niño
9.30 Start the Week Broedcast earlier (r)
10.00 The World Tonight with Justin Webb
10.45 Book at Bedfitme: Ernest Hemingway
Cartenary — The Sun Also Rises John Sharian
reads the first part of Hemingway's novel
11.00 Radio 4 Appeal Nicholas Parsons speaks on
betalf of the British Stammering Association (r)
11.02 Fear on 4: Tissue Memory Judy Upton's drama
about a heart transplant patient. With Rachel
Atigns, Km Well and John Rowe (r)
11.30 (FM) Alts of England Richard Coles talks to
Dave Townsend (3/4) (r)
11.30 (TW) Today in Partisment Political news
12.00em News 12.30 The Late Book: Pive Stories by
Anton Cheidhov Alstar McGovan reads An
Incident, the first of five tales by Chekhov (r)
12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4/FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 196 (12.45-5.55); i). CLASSIC FM, FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio Batings compiled by Isra Hughes, Rosemery Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and

Payment of Dividend

The 45th Annual General Meeting of our shareholders gassed the resolution to pay a dividend for the fiscal year 1997/98 of DM 14.00 and a bonus of DM 2.00 per share of DM 50.00 par value.

Payment on DM 10.00 Deposit Certificates will be effected at the rate of DM 3.20 against presentation of coupon No. 38. Both payments are subject to deduction of 26.375 % of German

Payment will be effected against presentation of coupon No. 11.

Withholding Tax (including solidarity surfax). United Kingdom Income Tax will be deducted at the rate of 5 % unless claims are accompanied by an affidavit. German Withholding Tax exceeding 15 % is recoverable by United Kingdom residents. The Company's United Kingdom Paying Agents will, upon request, provide the appropriate form for

Paying Agents in the United Kingdom are Warburg Dillon Read and

The net amount of dividend in respect of the DM 50.00 shares is payable at the rate of exchange on the day of presentation.

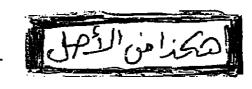
Claims concerning DM 10.00 Deposit Certificates should be lodged at National Westminster Bank PLC, NatWest Investments Counter. c/o NafWest Markets, 1st Floor, 135 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3UR, on special forms obtainable from that Office.

United Kingdom Banks and Members of the Stock Exchange should mark payment of the dividend in Space No. 38 provided on the back of the certificate. All other claimants must complete the special form and present this at the above address together with the certificates for marking by the National Westminster Bank PLC. Postal applications

The net payment in respect of DM 10.00 Deposit Certificates will be made in sterling at the rate of exchange on or shortly after the due date. Board of Management



THYSSEN AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT



Quick fix supplied by Bodge and Scarper

REVIEW

Paul

dance of try-oriented documentaries has become dance of fly-on-the-wall as quixotic as complaining about bull-bars or middle-aged men wearing baseball caps.

We had two new examples this weekend: The Builders (BBC). Friday) and Shanghai Vice (Channel 4, Sunday). Both, in their way, broke new ground, Shanghai Vice because of the candour of the footage which Phil Agland has obtained from one of the most secretive societies in the world.

We followed the life of Miss Tang, a young medic who has moved to this throbbing city from the country. Shanghai was opened to the world three years ago. The colonial waterfront evokes Liverpool, the skyscrapers behind evoke Hong Kong. Tang goes everywhere with her landlady Mrs Feng. a Chaucerian widow, 65 and still chasing a good sex life. ever, the programme has raised Most of the material, however, the docusoap to a previously

features the Shanghai police, struggling to dam up a flood of heroin, brought into the city by impenetrable cliques of disaffected Muslims from the northwest provinces. Their methods are direct and brutal, and they don't care who knows it apparently. They have not yet learnt how to manipulate television and are consequently fascinating to watch. My only regret is that, because Shanghai people speak very fast, and because it is harder to pick up signals from their unfamiliar intonation and gestures, you rely entirely on the subtitles which fly by so quickly that you hardly have time to ponder the images.

The Builders was groundbreaking in two senses. First literally two of the outfits concerned dug up plots of grass to lay foundations for a new bungalow and a rear extension. More importantly, how-

Overworked, overextended and overwrought as it is, this genre can still offer some perverse pleasure. There will be a character so dismal, an egomaniac so irritatine, that their mundane tergiversations take on a distasteful fascination. They offer the viewer a few drops of a drug as insidiously addictive as nicotine, cocaine or krispy com-'n'-potato snax, nameby a vague sense of superiority.

f like me, you see Jim, the annoying Gretna Green "blacksmith" on Love Town, as a bit of a prat, it follows that you yourself feel less of a prat by comparison. That feeling, though psychologically fattening, is undoubtedly "moreish". Take it away and there is not much left. The Builders sets out to redress

the bad reputation of Britain's

builders by presenting us with a range of hard-working, chirpy,

Hoggart slightly roguish but loveable chaps

from around the country. They are like characters from an undated Ealing comedy, always ready with their cheeky smiles and, above the back of their jeans, their smiley cheeks, always chasing another cuppa, darlin'.
They are, we are led to believe,

friendly, honest and competent. The main point of interest seems to be that they evoke chortling lust in

wise we are just watching a bunch of guys drinking tea, laying concrete, grumbling that the free croissants are cold, knocking a wall down, building a wall up and

drinking more tea.

But the bad reputation of the building trade didn't just arrive in the post, like a misdirected parking fine. The nation's builders have made strenuous efforts over many decades to earn it, and it should not be thrown away in this cavalier lashion.

I now have a wonderful builder. I am relieved to say, but only after years of suffering the catalogue of bodging, procrastination, false estimates, flannelling, lack of consideration and downright deceit that most punters experience from most builders most of the time.

To add insult to injury, the perpetrators are usually cocky know-alls who genuinely believe that their unreliability, sharp-practice and ship. If we must have a docusoap on this national disgrace. why can't we follow a bunch of these Jack-the-lads, patting themselves on the back as they mess up innocent people's homes.

The horrible behaviour of a cowboy builder who once "converted" the house next door to our old home caused me to have elaborate fantasies involving his torture, mutilation and death. Many builders would make particularly gratifying victims for a series like Murder Most Horrid (BBC2, Friday).

Because the stories are "oneoffs" the quality is variable, but that is also the show's strength. You never know quite what to expect, although you can usually rely on a deliciously observed bit of character acting from Dawn French. It is not just that she has

inability to cut anything to size such a gift for faintly absurd represents the height of craftsmanthem with such relish.

Frozen, last week's opener about two greedy prewar spinsters with a huge early model freezer, was a delightful bit of pastiche. The script consisted almost entirely of silly double-entendres of the type found on old seaside postcurds. but inventive and daft enough to

avoid Carry On crassness. This week Going Solo with French and Sarah Lancashire as round-the-world yachtswomen. wasn't quite as chortlesome. There was a nifty bit of plotting, with those Agatha Christie reprises where the same scenes are shown twice from different characters' points of view, but the twist was still predictable. French turned in another virtuoso performance as a fantastically irritating sailing companion, and the show went some way to make good the damage left by The Builders.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (78352) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (i) (90401) 9.00 Kilroy (T) (2924739)

9.45 The Vanessa Show (T) (7475401) 10.55 News; Regional News (T) (3466265) 11.00 Change That (3476642)

11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (1) (3446401) 11.55 News; Regional News (T) (7331739) 12.00pm Call My Bluff (85420)

12.30 Wipeout (4907197) 12.55 The Weather Show (1) (53041197) 1.00 One O'Clock News; Weather (T)

1.30 Regional News; Weather (59963772) 1.40 Neighbours (T) (35003130) 2.05 Ironside (r) (5224975)

2.55 Through the Keyhole (r) (T) (6966410) 3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (6860772) 3.45 The Littlesi Pet Shop (5415623) 3.55 Bodger and Badger (9145555) 4.10 Pocket Dragon Adventures (6397449) 4.20 Anthony Ant (6133371) 4.35 Misery Guts (3444975) 5.00 Newsround (4103401) 5.10 Blue Peter (9803888)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (836555) 6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (97)

6.30 Regional News Magazine (59) 7.00 This is Your Life (T) (3284) 7.30 Watchdog Healthcheck (T) (1)

8.00 EastEnders Simon is suicidal (T) (9604) 8.30 Mrs Merton and Malcolm Plucky Malcolm decides to teach the local big head a lesson (2/6) (T) (8739) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News (T)

9.30 Animal Police (T) (30468)

10.00 Panorama A report on the British gynaecologist Dr Richard Neale, who came back to work in this country after register for incompetence (T) (651246)



Billy Connolly takes his trike for a ride across Australia (10.45pm)

10.45 Billy Connolly's World Tour Australia Billy visits Canberra, Botany Bay and Sydney (r) (T) (812555) 11.25 Harbour Lights Mike is alarmed by the behaviour of a Falklands veteran (r) (T) (3.26460)

12.15am Bandolero! (1968) Two outlaw brothers go on the run in the aftermath of a disastrous bank hold-up. Western by Andrew V McLagien (T) (386598)

1.55 Weather (1767685) 2.00 BBC News 24 (3170043)

WALES: 6.30pm-7.00 Wales Today (T) (59) 10.00 (T) (547739) 11.15 Billy Connolly's World Tour of Australia (r) (T) (698197) 11.55 Harbour Lights (r) (T) (059333) 12.45am FILM: Bandolerol (T) (203640) 2.25 News Headlines (T) (9032111) 2.30-6.00 BBC News

BBC2

7.00am Children's BBC Breakfast Show: Pingu (7835420) **7.05** Teletubbies (5586820) **7.30** Snorks (8797333) **7.50** (1441642) 8.50 Romuald the Reindeer (1447826) 9.00 Space Ark (7069642) 9.10 Short Circuit (4791517) 9.30 Writing and Pictures (8180623) 9.45 Storytime (8185178) 10.00 Teletubbies (94739) 10.30 Words and Pictures (9620352) 10.45 Cats' Eyes (9625807) 11.00 Look and Read (3646352) 11.20 Zig Zag (3593352) 11.40 Landmarks (8974333)

12.00pm Job Bank (4407401) 12.10 History File (5679130) 12.30 Working Lunch (18246) 1.00 Romuald the Reindeer (68360772) 1.10 The House Detectives (r) (41108468) 1.40 Hart-Davis on History (35024623) 2.10 Awash with Colour (56884772)

2.40 News: Regional News (1) (3638062) 2.45 Match of Their Day (T) (40)15536) 3.25 News; Regional News (T) (4165868) 3.30 The Village (r) (9805420)

3.55 Kave Open relationships (9820739) 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (T) (6509284) 4.55 Esther (T) (5584265) 5.30 Today's the Day (T) (36) 6.00 Hit, Miss or Maybe (r) (T) (134975)

6.15 The Simpsons Lisa and Bart write script for a TV show (T) (777604) 6.40 Space 1999 (r) (T) (917062) 7.30 Rough Guide to the World Edith Bowman and Dimitri Doganis explore the

city of Cairo (2/6) (T) (3) 8.00 Raising the Roof Report on how leaseholders could have their rights taken away from them should someone buy their home's freehold (6/6) (T) (7246) 8.30 Food and Drink (T) (9081)

9.00 CHOICE Births, Marriages and Deaths Graham stumbles across a secret which has been kept from him for 25 years (2/4) (T) (574197) 9.55 Five Go Mad in the Kitchen (808449) 10.00 If I Ruled the World With Pauline



A film presenting an intriguing look at the youth of Britain (11.15pm)

11.15 CHOICE Tribe UK New series offering people in Britain today (T) (696739) 11.55 Weather (845333)

12.00am Despatch Box (39531) 12.30 BBC Learning Zone: Open University The Authentick and Ironicall Historie of Henry V 1.30 What Was Modernism? 2.00 Schools Music — Marsalis on Mucic Taient 2000 Shorts 4.00 Discovering Portuguese Portuguese Discovered 5.00 Business and Training, Skills for Work 5.45 Open University Copernicus and His World 6.10 Humanity and the Scalfold 6.35 Musee d'Orsay

5.30am ITN Morning News (14642) 6.00 GMTV (5188197) 9.25 Trisha (T) (8310826) 10.30 This Morning (T) (44925420) 12.15pm HTV News and Weather (T)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News; Weather (T) 1.00 Shortland Street (28284)

1.30 Home and Away (T) (37371) 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (5717888) 2:45 Dale's Supermarket Sweep (T) (205:265) 3.15 ITN News Headlines (T) (4156130)

3.20 HTV News (1) (4186371) 3.25 CITV: Mopatop's Shop (4176994) 3.35 Kipper (9136807) 3.45 The Adventures of Captain Pugwash (9149371) 4.00 Oggy and the Cockroaches (5872130) 4.20 It's a Mystery (5898178) 4.45 Sabrina the Teenage Witch (3468555)

5.10 WEST: Getaways (1) (T) (7268265) 5.10 WALES: Moneyspinners (T) (7268265) 5.40 ITN Early Evening News; Weather (T) (441536)

6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (776975) 6.25 WEST: HTV Weather (882771) 6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight; Weather (T)

6.30 The West Tonight (T) (5) 6.56 HTV Crimestoppers (817081)
7.00 Wish You Were Here? Melinda
Messenger visits Greece, Jamie Theakston goes skiing in the Swiss Alps and Cleo Rocos explores Naples, while Anthee Turner treks through the Himalayan foothills (1) (8352)

7.30 Coronation Street (T) (9) 8.00 Undercover Customs (T) (4772) 8.30 Carol Vordenman's Better Homes Carol and her team of handymen take their tools to Port Sunlight on the Wirral



Amanda Burton stars in the climax of the tense thriller (9pm)

9.00 Forootten Dexter realises Ben saved his life, but that doesn't stop him from telling the police about his past — and soon the whole village knows a child killer is living among them. (3/3) (T) (3517) 10.00 News at Ten: Weather (T) (88517)

10.30 HTV News and Weather (1) (828246) 10.40 WEST: Nash Bridges (T) (653739) 10.40 WALES: Mike Doyle and Friends (T) (653739)

11.40 WALES: Nash Bridges (T) (759772) 11.40 Swift Justice (r) (759772) 12.40am Football Extra (1311424) 1.40 World Football (r) (1057111) 2.10 The Raven (1963) Roger Corman's

horror spool about a deadly feud between two 15th-century sorcerers Directed by Roger Corman (2404666)

Stamng Vincent Price and Boris Karloff 3.40 Trisha (r) (T) (2182666) 4.40 FTV Nightscreen (59706111)

5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T)(24260)

CENTRAL As HTV West except 12.20-12.30pm Central News (7651130)

1.00 High Road (28284) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (6132739) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (206994) 3.20-3.25 Central News (4186371)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (7268265) 6.25-7.00 Central News; Weather (218178) 10.30-10.40 Central News (828246) 11.40 The Big Match (719771)

12.10-12.40am Short Story Cinema 4.35 Central Jobfinder '99 (2614802)

5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (3708314)

WESTCOUNTRY As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.27 Westcountry News; Weather (T) (4413062) 12.27-12.30 Illuminations (7676449) 1.00 High Road (T) (28284) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (6132739) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (1) (206994) 3.20-3.25 Westcountry News; Weather (1) (4186371) 5.08 Birthday People (4165212) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (T) (7268265) 6.00-7.00
Westcountry Live (T) (13791) 10.30-10.40
Westcountry News; Weather (T) (828246)
11.40-12.40 The Wright Verdicts (759772)

MERIDIAN As HTV West except. 12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News; Weather (4413062) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (T) (7268265) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (T) (75) 6.30-7.00 Country Ways (T) (5) 10.30-10.40 Meridian News; Weather (T) (828246) 11.40-12.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H

(759772) 5.00am-5.30 Freescreen (T) (24260) ANGLIA

As HTV West except, 12,19pm Anglia Air Watch_(7670265)_12.20-12.30 Anglia News and Weather (7651130) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (T) (7268265) 5.59 Anglia Weather (421913) 6.00 Anglia News (T) (50536) 6.50-7.00 Take It On (540807) 10.29 Anglia Air Watch (965468) 10.30-10.40 Anglia News and Weather (T) (828246) 11.40 The Big Match (719771) 12.10am-12.40 Tales from the Crypt (3047043)

SIC

Starts: 5.55am Sesame Street (r) (20554642) Ysgollon: The Elg Breakfast (67246401) 9.00 Ysgollon: The English Programme (99533994) 9.25 Schools at Work (29174826) 9.30 Box (74422352) 10.00 Ble Ar Y Ddaear? (91287536) 10.15 Scotscapes (91277159) 10.30 Place and People (51998420) 10.50 Stop, Look, Listen (60515979) 11.00 Deuparth Gwaith (15340468) 11.15 The Mix (15323791) 11.30 Here's One I Made Earlier (r) (T) (68698081) 12.00pm Right to Reply (T) (97484449) 12.30 Sesame Street (T) (26202994) 1.00 Planed Plant (T) (67256888) 1.30 Classic British Cars (1/8) (T) (26201265) 2.00 Time Team (T) (73323081) 3.00 Return to the Lost Gardens of Heligan (2/4) (1) (905 60772) 3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (67572772) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (87591807) 4.30 The Planed Plant (90572517) 5.30 Countdown (T) (67504371) 6.00 Newyddion 6 (T) (93820604) 6.10 Heno (T) (96310807) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (T) (90535081) 7.30 Newyddion (T) 67581420) 8.00 Can I Gymru (1) (37723994) 10.00 Sgorlo (T) (54072420) 11.05 Father Ted (T) (88858994) 11.35 Rising Damp (T) (92638159) 12.05am Rural Rides (T) (30224024) 1.05 in Search of Law and Order (3/3) (T) (33581463) 2.05 Diwedd 4.00

CHANNEL 4

same Street (4645994) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (23739) 9.00 Schools: The English Programme (1673587) 9.25 Schools at Work

(8238536) 9.30 Geography Junction (8175791) 9.45 Book Box (8170246) 10.00 Stage Two Science (9387284) 10.15 Scotscapes (9377807) 10.30 Place and People (1924130) 10.50 Stop, Look, Listen (8294401) 11.00 Rat-A-Tat-Tat (3584604) 11.15 The Mix

(3507555) 11.30 Here's One I Made Earlier (r) (T) (7468) 12.00pm Sesame Street (†) (78130) 12.30 Bewitched (r) (T) (36642)

1.00 Pet Rescue (T) (26826) 1.30 The Ocean World of John Stoner (r) (35030284)

1.55 English Without Tears (1944) An aristocratic belle falls for her buffer but the course of true love never runs smoothly. Comedy, starring Penelope Ward. Directed by Harold French (1) (75622710) 3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (33)

4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (8) 4.30 Countdown (T) (3461642) 4.55 Montel Williams (T) (5579333) 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (84)

6.00 Roseanne (r) (T) (17) 7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (T) (577997) 7.55 The 1999 Citibank Private Bank Photography Prize (T) (951284)

8.00 CHOICE To the Ends of the Earth In 1995. the Titanic was discovered on the bed of the icy North Atlantic ocean where it sank in 1912. Since then a bitter battle has raged in the US courts over what should become of the ill-fated passenger liner (2/6) (1)

9.00 CHRICE Shanghai Vice Continuing the documentary focusing on enme-spathe city of Shanghai (2/7) (1)



Christian Slater stars as the cutt

radio hero (10pm) 10.00 Pump Up the Volume (1990) A shy, discontented student overcomes his inhibitions and starts a pirate radio station. Teen drama, directed by Allan

Moyle (T) (872554) (830401)

11.56 Fetch (830401) 12.00am Surf's Upl (6432173)

12.10 Inbetween (2598111) 12:30 Mrs Buchan (1808956) 12.45 More is Less (5285685) 1.10 Dispatches (r) (T) (9217937) 1.40 Powerhouse (r) (1055753)

2.10 Right to Reply (r) (T) (9637314)

2.35 Rural Rides (r) (4871208)

3.30 Seven Days Under Mavis (r) (73173) 4.00 Schools: Auf Deutsch 14-19 (320314) 5.40 Schools at Work (4024869)

CHANNEL 5

6.00am 5 News and Sport Headlines, sport and business (3103082) 7.00 WideWorld Part seven. Children's often

difficult transition into formal education (r) (T) (8352555) 7.30 Milkshake! (2877081) 7.35 Wimzie's House (r), 5 News Update

(4856710) 8.00 Havakazoo (r) (2079333)

8.30 Dappledown Farm (r); 5 News Update 9.00 Was It Good for You? (r) (8260771) 9.25 Russell Grant's Postcards (4638352) 9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (9530951)

10.20 Sunset Beach Cole goes on the offensive (T) (3825994) 11.10 Leeza (8349053) 12.00pm 5 News at Noon (T) (2072420) 12.30 Family Affairs Pele is funous with Claire

(r) (T); 5 News Update (1450642) 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Michael fights her feelings (T) (23105826)

1.25 The Roseanne Show With actress Jennifer Tilly (r): 5 News Update (1395913)

2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (9338642) 2.30 Good Afternoon Lifestyle magazine, incorporating real-life soap Liverpool Mums, Eric knowles with Selling the Family Silver and word game Cryplogram, 5 News Update (1936130) 3.30 The Punch and Judy Man (1962) Downbeat comedy drama, starring Tony Hancock as a seaside entertainer whose hatred of snoobery ruins the local

mayor's gala celebrations. With Sylvia Syms. Directed by Jeremy Summers (T) 5.20 Sunset Beach Shown earlier (r) (T), 5 News Update (3909420)

6.00 100 Per Cent Computer-generated quiz (2672623) 6.30 Family Affairs Claire wakes up battered and bruised (T) (2663975)

7.00 5 News; Weather Kirsty Young rounds up the day's stories (T) (9309130) 7.30 Champions of Nature Efforts to protect the polar bear's fragile natural habitat, currently endangered by pollution (T); 5 News Update (2669159)

8.00 Instant Gardens Jac Flower continues Messenger's country garden by commissioning a stonemason and an artist to build a pagan statue (4/14) (T) (9325178)

8.30 Animal ER The vets help release a pregnant mare entangled in barbed wire (3/6) (1); 5 News Update (9337913) Powerful drama, starring Marcia Cross as 9.00 All She Ever Wanted (TVM 1995)

woman suffering from a debilitating medical condition who rejects medical mother. Directed by Michael Scott (T) (81437197) 10.50 Dr Fox's Chart Update Pop hits

(8681159). 10.55 V The aliens attempt to steal the Earth's water supply (r) (36167604)

12.50am Live and Dangerous Day four of the Winter X Games (65422482) 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (7363482) 5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (8044289)

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PAY TV: SATELLITE, CABLE AND DIGITAL

• For further listings see Saturday's Vision SKY ONE

SKY ONE

7.00am Chart Duchata (\$160)1 7.30 The semi-ran in (\$42) 8.00 The semi-ran (\$42) 9.00 (\$16 \$40) 9.00 (\$

SKY BOX OFFICE Skir Bon OFFICE 1 - Transponder 51) The Postman (1997) NA SCHOOLSTILL BUILD - SE AND

Sen GOV OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) As Good as it Gets (1997) The Edge (1997) FILMFOUR

6.00pm Things Change (1988) 1.716/7591 7.40 Fake (7360284) 8.00 The Kids Are Alright (1978) (00007913) 9.50 Hira has A Love Story (\$990429) 10.00 Stab Boys (1997) #02440621 11.45 Stand 61 of 2905266 1.15am The Mar without a Face (1983) (1598395) 3 10 The Innocents (1961) (2130208) 4.50 A Turn of the Earth (1247666) 6.00 Close

SKY PREMIER 8.00am Miss Evers' Boys (TVM 1997) 155-15 8.00 Home Front (1987) (25-15) 10 00 Love at Large (1990) (540(2) 2.00pm Miss Evers' Boys (TVM 1997)

Love at Large (1990) (9500) 6.00 Forever

Love (1998) (7)(57) 8.00 intimate Relations (1995) (7432) 10.00 Last Man Standing (1996) (598)(75) 11.45 The Mirror Haa Two Faces (1996) (123)(420)

SKY MOVIEMAX

(17503) 11.00 Phenomenon (1956) (7542) 1.00pm Common Fortica Fine Basinger (4246) 1.30 Million Marce Marce Majhorn (501486) 2.15 Amon million Sear Corner, 1725/157: 3.00 Someth Borrowed, Something Blue (19 (2.224) 5.00 Before He Wakes (19 (2.238) 7.00 Phenomenon (19 657 39: 9.00 The Rockford Files: Murde

(65739) 8.00 The Rockdord Files: Murder and Misdomeanours (1997) 17.17.11 11.00 The Night Celler (1997) 12.1351 12.35am Kisa of a Stranger (1997) 10.9518 2.10 Married People, Single Sex II: For Better for Worse (1953) 171019.5 3.55 Mother, May I Sleep with Danger (1996) (616593) SKY CINEMA

4.00pm The Desert Rats (1953) (*452023 6.00 King Kong (1933) (*558772) 8.00 The Gunfighter (1950) (*567517) 10.00 Spellbound (1945) 1.45am Three Faces of Eve (1957) (52)78211 3.20 Artists and Models (1955) 553(09:0)

TNT

9.00pm What the Lion Reas (\$100094) 11.00 The Band Wagon (1953) (8201149) 1.15am Caslow (1971) 45705276 3.00 Where the Spies An

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00pm Footbel Special 8.30 Show Show 9.00 Raping News 9.30 Americas Co. Ship 10.00 Seption Footbat 11.00 Footbal Lengus Review 12.00pm April 20 Co. Ship 10.00 Seption 10.00pm April 20 Co. Ship 10.00 Seption 10.00pm April 20 Co. Ship 10.00pm April 20 C

Longus Howers 12.00pm revisions of State 12.30 What is Meekend 1.00 Fortish Sports 2.30 Spanish Footier 4.30 fortish Sports 5.00 Max Power 6.00 Sports Centre 6.30 What is Weekend 7.00 Live Monday,

Heart Football 10.15 Sports Centre 10.30 You're Ch. Sec. Sports' 11.15 Football Longur, Review 12.15am Sports, Centre 12.30 You're On Sec. Sports' 1.15 Mondan Night Football Sout al 3.15 Sports Centre

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00mm Anchor: Or Style 7.30 Roong News 8.00 Got 12.00mm Rugby League 13.00 Earl-style 3.30 Transfer 4.30 Fromman and Jetspori World 5.00 Footbast League Review 6.00 V-Max 6.30 Processing the set between Keep 2.00 Weeks Pawerboat and Jeropon World 7.00 World Voter Scor. 10.00 Map Power 11.00 Cycling 11.30 V-Map 12.00am International Bouts 2.00 Spens Centre

SKY SPORTS 3 12.00pm Saures, Fight Night 2.00 Get 6.00 Gye ng 7.00 Feb T. 7.30 Tau Span 8.00 International Sovis 10.00 Wonderful World of Get 11.00 Gotton Age of Motor Racing Alto Zie: Motor Sport **EUROSPORT**

7.30am Articles 8.30 Bernfor 10.00 Apper Sency 11.00 Feed-Side Football 12.00pm Arctic Sency 3.00 Cycling 4.00 Barnor 5.30 Feed-Painty 5.30 Dog Side Radnor 7.00 Euroma Sports 8.00 Thal 9.00 Strungman 10.00 Football Eurogedis 11.30 Searcy

UK GOLD 7.00am Crossesses 7.30 Neighbours 7.55 SastEnder 8.30 The 9d 9.00 The 9d 9.30 When the Scot Cemes In 10.30 Rhods 11.00 Datas 11.55 Neighbours 12.25pm EartEndors 1.00 Juliet Bravo 2.00 Dallas 2.55 The Bit 3.25 The Bit 3.55 EastEndors 2.55 the \$1.3.25 the B4 3.55 EastEndors 4.30 Prote 5.00 At Creatures Great and Small 6.00 Decays 7.00 appared Children 7.40 Dadis Arm, 8.20 The Breast Empire 8.00 Chates 10.05 Harrish Masceth 11.10 Chan All Harrs 11.50 The Bir 12.20m The Bir 12.50 Blackeddor II 1.25 French and Sanders 2.00 Decaysfield 3.00 Students was Seventialed.

GRANADA PLUS

CARLTON SELECT

6.00am Gummi Boars 6.25 Classic Toons 6.35 Tale Spin 7.00 Classic Toons 7.10 6.00em Within Those Walls 7.00 Bowler 7,30 Sector at Large 8,00 Halleton 8,30 The Marty Wives of Pathol 9,00 Classic Changeton Street 9,30 Emmortals Farm Auroch 7.35 10: Dahrahans 8.00 Gool Troop 8.25 Classe Toom: 8.45 Winnerthe Porth 9.00 The Adventu

King Kong gives Fay Wray a hard time in this scene from the 1933 version of King Kong (Sky Cinema, 6pm)

Many Wives of Painck 1.30 Me and My Girl 2.00 Upstars, Downstars 3.00 The Love Soit 4.00 The Professonals 5.00 Hart to Hart 6.00 Emmedale Farm 6.30 Classic Coronation Street 7.00 The Professonals 8.00 The Barry Hill Shor

5.00pm What's Cooking? 5.30 Gridod 6.00 London Bridge 6.30 Gat Back 7.00 Boon 8.00 Brids of a Framer 8.30 A Kind of Living 9.00 The Fourn Rended Mystenes 10.00 Big Say 11.00 Hit Street Blues 12.00am Us and Them 12.30 Gridach DISNEY CHANNEL

Toothbrush Family 10,00 See Suz 10.10 Rose and Jum 10.30 The By Garage 10.45 PB and J Otter 11.00 Securic Street 12.00pm The Adventures of Spot 12.05 Annual Shell 12.15 Pocket Dragons 12.30 Printing Stein 12.15 Process progress 12.55 The Toombrush Family 1.00 Bire Size 1.10 Rose and Jim 1.30 The Big Garage 1.45 PB and Ji Orier 2.00 Winne the Poon 2.30 Quark Pach 3.00 The Little Mermad 3.30 Art Allack 4.00 101 Dalmalians 4.30 Hercules The TV Show 5.00 Recess 5.15 Permer Arm 5.00 Form Cay 6.00 Toom Arm 5.30 Smart Guy 6.00 Toen Angel 6.30 Boy Meets World 7.00 Fillat A Goody Movie (1995) 8.15 Honey, I Shrunihe Juds The TV 5870W 9.00 Double Dinosaurs 19.00 Home Improvement 10.30 The Wonder Years 11.00 Touched by An Angel

FOX KIDS NETWORK

5.00am Adventures of Dodo 6.05 Power addism Accentifies of Dood & B. Power Rangers Turbo 6.55 Speleman 7.20 Oggy and the Cockroaches 7.30 Donkey Kong County 8.00 Hero Turbos 8.25 The Incredible Hulk 8.55 from Man 9.15 Fantastic Four 9.40 X-Mon 10.05 Casper 10.30 Oggy and the Coderoaches 10.55
Eel-Stravaganza 11.05 Bobby's World
11.30 Life with Laue 11.55 Home to Rent
12.05pm Derms and Grassher 12.30
Contey Kong Country 1.00 Monegi 1.25
Ace Vertura 1.55 The Increade Hulk 220
Iron Man 2.45 Fantaste Four 3.10 V-Man
3.30 X-Press 3.35 Spidemen 4.00
Gooseburge 4.25 Heat Turtles 4.50
Casper 5.00 Dermis and Graatfar 5.30 Ace
Vertura 6.30 Contey Long Country 6.30
Eel/Stravaganza 6.55 Oggy and the
Coderoaches

NICKELODEON

6.00am Rodon's Modern Life 6.30 Bruno tho Not 7.00 CatDon's 7.30 Rugrats 8.00 The Wid Thomberys 8.30 Arthur 9.00 Children's 88C 10.00 Wirtuze's House 10.30 Papa Beaver Stones 11.00 Tho Margio School Bus 11.30 Cartosine 12.00pm Rugrats 1.30 Liftu Bear Stones 2.00 Candon's 2.30 Children's 88C 3.00 Children's 8BC 3.30 Doug 4.00 Three Finends and Jern 4.30 Rugrats 5.00 Sister Sater 5.30 Kenan and Fris 6.00 Perford BRAYO

8.00pm Nariral Law 9.00 Extreme Championchip Wresting 9.30 Cops 10.00 The Late Lounge 10.30 Error Confessions 11.00 FUM: Pandemonium (1982) 1.00em Eroic Confessions 1.30 The Late Lounge 2.00 Manal Law 3.00 FLM: Propoles (1984) 5.00 Extreme Preppies (1984) 5.00 E Championship Wiestung 5.30 Cops PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Jerrny 7.30 Grace Under Frie 8.00 Ellen 8.30 News Radio 9.00 Drop the Deart Flon 8.30 NewsPadio 9.00 Drop the Bed Donwer 9.30 Vilhose Line is 4 Anyesy? 10.00 Frasier 10.30 Choesi 11.00 Saniest 11.30 The Larry Sanders Show 12.00 Print Lato Night with Devot Letterman 1.00 Tax 1.30 Fromine 2.00 Dr Kat 2.30 Tax and Che 3.00 Montained 2.00 Tax and Che 3.00 Montained 2.00 Tax Fibs 3.00 Nightstand 3.30 Abbot and Costello

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL SATELLITE: Born-MIDNIGHT ONLY 7.30am Bloomberg Information Televis 8.00 Synhings 9.00 Battlestar Galact 10.00 Quantum Leap 11.00 Dark Shado 11.30 New Alfred Hachcock 12.00pm 1

felicity Zone 12.30 The Twinght Zone 1.00

Tales of the Unexpected 2.00 Amazing Stones 2.30 Mysteries, Magic and Miracles 3.00 Eattlestair Galactica 4.00 The Incredited Hule 5.00 Signangs 6.00 Time Ito 7.00 Cuantum Leap 8.00 The Cape 8.00 Bastylon 5 10.00 FILM: Garyver: Dark Mero (1992) 12.00am Tales of the Unexpected 12.30 Tales of the Unexpected

HOME & LEISURE

8.00am Today's Gournet 6.30 Graham Kerr 7.00 Room Service 7.30 The Panied House 8.00 Stephon Service 9.30 A Baby Story 9.00 Smply Paning 9.30 Poned History 10.00 Real Gardens 10.30 Cookabout with Greg and May 11.00 The Duceman 11.25 The Home and Lesure Huse 11.30 Extend Austral 12.00em House 11.30 Fishing Australia 12.00pm Our House Down Under 12.30 Anhouse Trail 1.00 Our House 1.30 Hometime 2.00 New Yarkee Workshop 2.30 Home Ages 3.00 This Old House 3.30 Go Fishing DISCOVERY 4,00pm Rev Hurs Fishing Adventures 4.30 Walker's World 5.00 Time Travellers 5.30

Terra / 8.00 Wildsite SCS 6.30 Adventures 1973 / 8.00 YMENE S.CS 8.30 Anymures of the Guest 7.30 The Quest 8.00 Nock's Quest 8.30 The Supermanus 9.00 The fire 880w Us 10.00 Plane: Ocean 11.00 Wings 12.00am The Andes 1.00 Terra / 1.30 ANIMAL PLANET

12.00pm (Back Searty 12.30 Holywood Sefon 13.0 Croccode Hunter 2.00 It's a vet 5 life 2.30 Hunter 3.30 Harry's Factice 4.00 Jack Harria's Zoo Life 4.30 Annual Doctor 5.00 Pet Rescue 5.30 Croccode Huntus 6.00 Black Bearly 6.30 Lissie 7.00 Rediscurery of the World 6.00 Annual Doctor 8.30 Gong Wild with Jeft Corwin 9.00 Wild at Heart 9.30 Emergency Vets 10.00 Kilder Instinct 11.00 Street All About It 11.30 Emergency Vets

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7.00pm Play The Nature of the Game 7.30 Water A Celegrature 8.00 Lords of Hobkado 9.00 Tribal Voice 10.00 Local Worlds 12.00em On the Edge

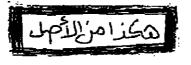
HISTORY 4.00pm Cash of Wings. The Stuff is Called 5.00 Lighter than Air The Golden Age 6.00 Ancient Attered States 7.00 Fabulous Fortunes: Wages of War — The Costs of War 7.30 I, Witness Leaving Home

CARLTON FOOD 9.00ars Food Network Daily 9.30 Coxon's Fitchen College 10.00 The Restaurant Show 10.30 Alive and Cooking 11.00 12.30 Norcic Nosh 1.00 Coxon's Nucher College 1.30 Tessa's Tasteburts 2.00 Lunch with Ed Barnes 2.30 Food Network Daily 3.00 Cooked in a Flash 3.30 A Sice of the Action 4.00 Grape Expectations 4.30

LIVING 6.00am Tiny and Crew 6.20 10 plus 2 6.40 Philbert the Frog 6.45 Greed/saurus and the Gang 6.50 Polks Dot Short 7.00 Practical Parenting 7.05 Professor Bubble 7.30 Castou 7.35 Bug Alent 7.35 Practical Parenting 8.00 Bamey and Friends 8.25 Babaloos 8.30 Tiny Tales 8.35 Tiny and Crew 8.50 Practical Parenting 9.00 Can'l Cool. Won't Cool 9.30 The Roseanne Show 19.00 the Jerry Springer Show 19.50 Maury Ponich 11.40 Brock-Side 12.10pm Annual Rescue 12.40 Rescue 911 1.10 Special Babales 1.40 Beyond Belsel: Fact or Fiction 2.10 LA Law 3.10 Living Room 4.00 Michael Cole 4.50 Rokinda 5.40 Ready, Stady, Cook 6.15 The Jerry Springer Show 7.05 Rescue 911 T.35 Annual Rescue 8.10 6.00am Tiny and Crew 6.20 10 plus 2 6.40 7.05 Rescue 911 7.35 Anrmal Rescue 8.10 Adrenalin Junioes 9.00 FILM: Choices of the Heart (1983) 11.30 Sex Life Down

ZEE TV

5.00am Amar Kathaven 5.30 Sa Re Ga Na 5.00 Your Zindage 6.30 Geet Gata Chel 7.00 Fath' Hindu 7.30 Dasy News 8.00 Ru-Ba-Ru 8.30 Tara 9.00 Jaan 9.30 Bare Ge April Baat 10.00 Pai-Do-Pai 11.00 Jhal Pz: Khara 11.30 Parampara 12.00pm FILM: Hindi Movie: Ahista Abista 3.00 Banola 7/ Metanase 10.00 am FILE: HIRRO MOVIE: Athlists Ablists 3.00 Bangla IV Notcamer Rat 3.30 Bive Pe Biva 4.00 Aldrar Birtal 4.30 Chiz Contest 5.00 Neeyel 5.30 Cahad Aur Nehrat 6.00 Musc Mag 6.30 Teacher 7.00 Gher Jama: 7.30 Film Beatert 8.00 News 8.30 Mausam 9.00 Sa Re Ga Ma 10.00 The Bip Debute 11.00 Chanath 11 30 Birtal Visc 17 Office Note. Shapath 11.30 Blurt Two 12.00am New: 12.30 Asp KI Adalat 1.00 Bangia Tv 1.30 Parmaran 2.00 FiLM: Bengati Movie 4.30 Par Jurite Marea





COMPANIES 43 Rentokil faces up to its earnings test

BUSINESS

EURO PLAN 46 Roger Bootle on Hamlet without the Prince



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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

MONDAY MARCH 1 1999

Trinity's £1bn bid hots up fight for Mirror

By RAYMOND SNODDY, MEDIA EDITOR

THE battle for control of Mirror Group began in earnest over the weekend as Trinity, the UK's largest regional newspaper group, tabled an indicative share and cash offer worth more than £1 billion for the newspaper and televi-

The Trinity offer, which is priced in the range of 205p to 215p a share, came as rival bidder, Regional Independent Media, publisher of the Yorkshire Post, decided to play a longer game. Rather than reveal its hand by submiting a new bid. RIM will, instead, make a formal application this week to the Department of Trade and Industry for permission to acquire Mirror Group, publisher of The Mirror, Sunday Mirror and Daily Record.

This will trigger an automatic Monopolies and Mergers which will take at least three months. The move by Trinity is a reversal of the previous roles of the two rivals for the group.

Trinity withdrew from earlier talks while RIM made the running with a 200p a share cash offer. Now it is likely that the future ownership of the national and regional newspaper company will not be decided until after an MMC inquiry into both the Trinity and RIM approaches.

deemed to be in an offer period. The company will bring forward its annual results, which could be announced as early as today but certainly early this week. Pre-tax profits of more than E72 million are expected, compared with £63.3 million in the previous year. Trinity's hope is that the performance will boost its share price and in turn help to improve the value of any share offer for Mirror Group.

Mirror Group itself will announce its results on Thursday with pre-tax profits of £101 million before exceptionals ex-pected up from £93 million last time. Analysts are currently pitching their takeover valuations in the region of 220p to 230p per share.

The inevitable delay in the determination of Mirror Group's future could place limits on the ability of John Allwood, chief executive, to act. He is believed to be looking at the sale of Mirror's 20 per cent stake in Scottish Media and Live TV. However, the Takeover Panel may decide that such disposals cannot be made in an offer period.

Trinity's strongest card is the preference of Phillips & Drew Fund Management, Mirror's largest shareholder, for a paper deal. It has a large number of big stakes in underperforming companies, and bought its stake at a high price. The fund manager is unlikely to accept cash unless it realises a significant profit, implying an offer price as high as 250p a share.

RIM, a private company, beparticular the Sunday titles. Sunday Mirror and The People need considerable investment to turn them round and that can best be achieved away



Lift off: Canary Wharf is this week expected to confirm plans for a stock market float. Although the company that owns and develops the Docklands site has never formally confirmed that it intends to float, all the advisers are now in place and preparations are in hand for a spring market debut that would value the company at more than £2 billion. Story, page 45

C&W prepares for **One-2-One flotation**

BY RAYMOND SNODDY

CABLE & WIRELESS, the international telecommunications group, is onsidering a flotation of One-2-One, the mobile telephone operator. The telecoms group plans to

cash in on investor enchantment with mobile phone companies. Analysts believe that One-2-One, a 50-50 joint venture between C&W and Media-One, the US cable group, could be worth as much as £7 billion - £5 billion after debt. One-2 One is the smallest of Britain's four mobile phone companies with about two million subscribers but the whole mobile

sector has seen rapid growth in recent months. Cable & Wireless shares have performed badly comfrom the gaze of the City. nared with rivals such as BT. underperforming the telecommunications sector by 63 per cent over the past 12 months. The company believes that a flotation could release some of the value hidden in One-2

Some analysts have wondered whether C&W would be prepared to sell its stake in the mobile company. C&W's new chief executive. Graham Wallace, made it clear in an interview last week that he sees mobile as a continuing part of the group, as one of the ways of delivering services to customers.

C&W is more likely to be a purchaser of the MediaOne stake rather than a seller. However, Mr Wallace ex-

Corporate profile.

plained that the relationship with MediaOne is a good one and there is absolutely nothing that needs fixing.

The float of a minority stake in the mobile group would help to put a market price on the company. The decision on whether or not to float One-2 One will be one of the first to be taken by Mr Wallace since

taking over. C&W has been an underperformer because of uncertainty over its 54 per cent stake in HongKong Telecom and years of management in-stability, which the City hopes has been ended by the appointment of Mr Wallace.

esterday on its future plans for One-2-One. Apart from the likely One-2 One initiative Mr Wallace

C&W declined to comment

will concentrate on accelerating Cable & Wireless's plans to create a global data network based on the Internet.

Any initial offering of One-2 One would be a minority interest, probably in the region of 25 per cent of the business. The ultimate ownership situ ation could then be clarified at

a later date. The obvious template is the success of Orange which was floated by Hutchison Whampoa and British Aerospace in 1996 and is now valued at

Further rate cut expected

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE City is optimistic that the Bank of England will again cut rates when the Monetary Policy Committee meets

Although the MPC has reduced rates from a peak of 7.5 per cent to 5.5 per cent, analysts believe there are few signs that the Bank is ready to call a halt to its cutting spree.
The Bank still believes

there are significant downside risks. Eddie George, the Governor, said yesterday that there was little that he could do to further ease the pain suf-fered by the manufacturing sector, "I could seek to ease the pain but only by giving an aspirin and actually the underlying pain would be worse later on if I did," He added, however, that he thought the chances that Britain suffered a technical recession during

the first part of this year were

only about "one in four".

Virgin on BA's tail with Union Jack design

By SAEED SHAH

VIRGIN ATLANTIC is to adopt the Union Jack in a new design for its aircraft to be unveiled later this year in a move intended to mock arch-rival British Airways, which dropped the national flag from its taillin, to much derision,

two years ago.

The new Virgin livery may feature the flag on the tailfins of its aircraft. BA said yesterday that it would press ahead with its new multicultural look, announced in June 1997. It has already painted 200 of its 350 aircraft with a range of inter-nationally inspired designs, in place of "British" livery.

Paul Moore, a spokesman for Virgin, said: "Although we're an international company, we're proud to be British." Virgin has spent "tens of thousands" of pounds on the new design for the outside of its aircraft, which will number

30 by the end of this year, in contrast to the millions spent by British Airways to come up with its multicoloured "ethnic"

designs.
Richard Branson's airline will also unveil a new interior refit, costing £25 million to £30 million, which follows BA with a seat for business or "upper" class that can be made completely flat for sleeping. Virgin will also announce that it has apolied for a route to Chicago. New routes to Chicago. Shanghai and New York will generate 500 extra jobs.

For its part, BA, which has been losing market share in business class, has begun a significant internal restructuring. which will divide the company into short-haul (UK and Europe) and two long-haul businesses, one for Asia and the Middle East, and the other for

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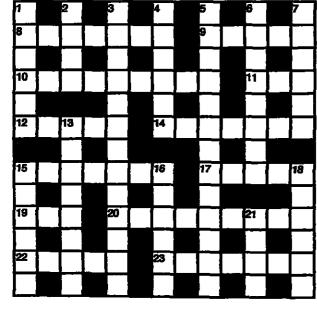
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(HoJo) and Days Inn brands to the UK in a £300 million deeconomy lodging. Days Inn claims to be the world's bigvelopment project.

By DOMINIC WALSH

PREMIER HOTELS, the budget hotel operator, is bringing the Howard Johnson

Building has beguin at two sites as part of a franchise agreement signed last year with Cendant, the troubled US consumer services group that owns the Days Inn. Howard

Johnson, Ramada and Super 8 and six under construction. budget hotel brands.

HoJo hotels enter UK

Although Cendant's hotel brands are little known inter-nationally, they dominate US gest hotel brand, with more than 2,000 hotels, and Howard Johnson has 650, although only 150 are outside the US. Premier Hotels is already a big Holiday Inn Express fran-

Under its deal with Cendant. it plans to open 60 Howard Johnson and Days Inn units in the next three years. Premier aims to open more than 1,000 rooms in London alone, and the first hotel will be a £9 million, 162room Days Inn near the Imperial War Museum, due to open in November. In West Bromwich, work has begun on an 68 million, 140-room Howard chisee, with seven units open Johnson, to open in October:

Hinchliffe quick on the draw as cartoon investor

By Fraser Nelson

STEPHEN HINCHLIFFE the Sheffield businessman accused by the Serious Fraud Office of ten counts of corrup-

tion, is trying to revive his ca-reer with children's cartoons. He is in talks to buy the rights to Sunshine Sammy's Battle of the Elements, a cartoon dreamt up by Jim Stanton Barber, a 71-year-old inventor who became a millionaire by devising a draught ex-cluder. Sunshine Sammy is also being backed by Patrick Moore, the astronomer.

run the business with his son James from Parkbead Hall. Sheffield - the same offices he used to control his Facia retail empire before it collapsed. Mr Stanton Barber, a friend of Mr Moore, said: Poor old Stephen has had a real bashing and been accused of commanship, when he didn't do any conning. He

is completely honest, quite

shy and a very very nice chap

Mr Hinchliffe is expected to



Mr Hinchliffe, still being investigated by the Department of Trade and Industry over Facia's collapse, said yesterday that talks over the cartoon venture are still at an early stage. However, minutes of a meet-

Hinchliffe and Mr Stanton

Barber state that Mr Hinchliffe has agreed to buy the sole trading rights to Prime Concepts, the company that owns the rights to the cartoon. Mr Stanton Barber said: "It's a done deal. Stephen has not put his signature to it because that is not the way he does business, but he has promised he won't go back on his

who has spent ten years devel-

Mr Stanton Barber says he

ing in January between Mr

As he is legally forbidden from being a director, his role in Prime Concepts is "main in-vestor". Mr Stanton Barber. oping Prime Concepts, said: This cartoon should go on to make billions. If I get 13 per cent of billions, I won't com-

is to talk this month to Michael Caine, the actor, about investing in Sunshine Sammy.

The cartoon's characters based on the weather, include General Thunderhead, Jack Frost and Monsoon Mary.



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